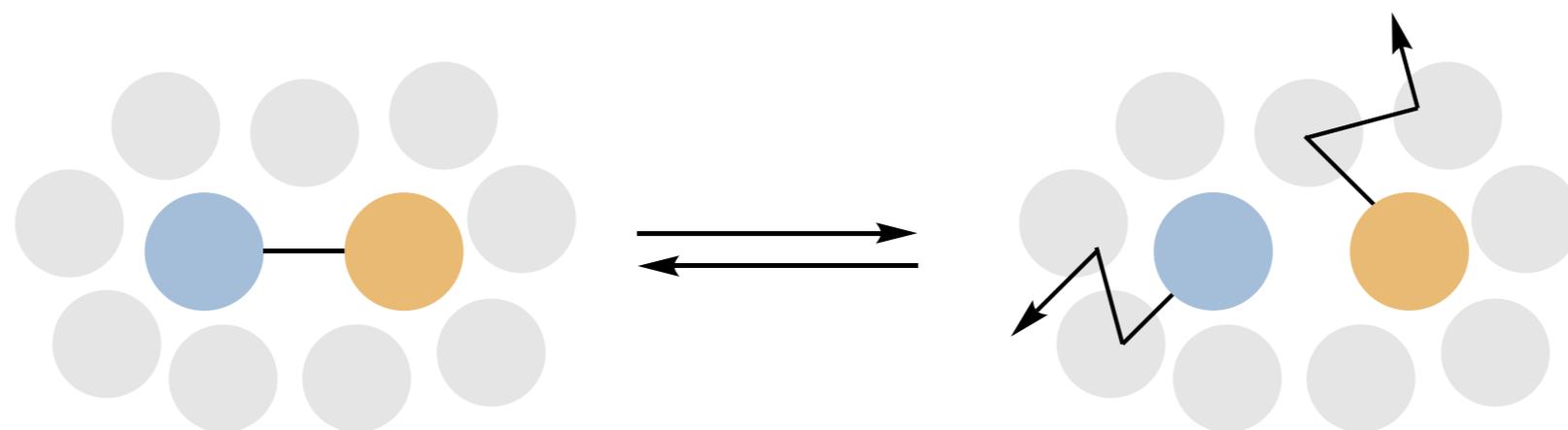
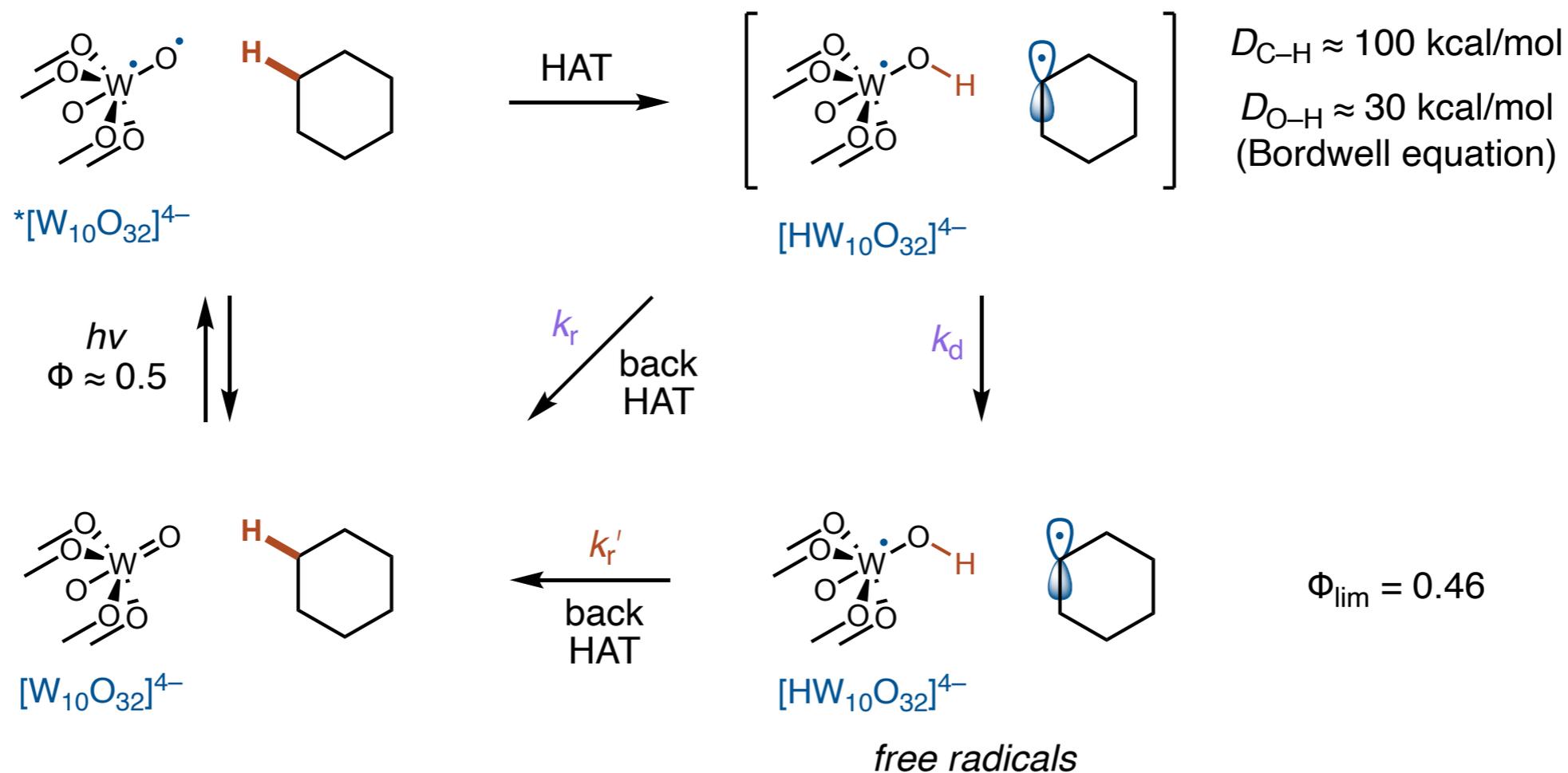


Radical Cage Effects



Patrick Sarver
MacMillan Group Meeting
22 April 2020

A problem that has bugged me for a while...



From transient absorption spectroscopy:

$$k_r / (k_r + k_d) = 0.930$$

almost every generated radical pair separates

From competition with electrophilic alkenes:

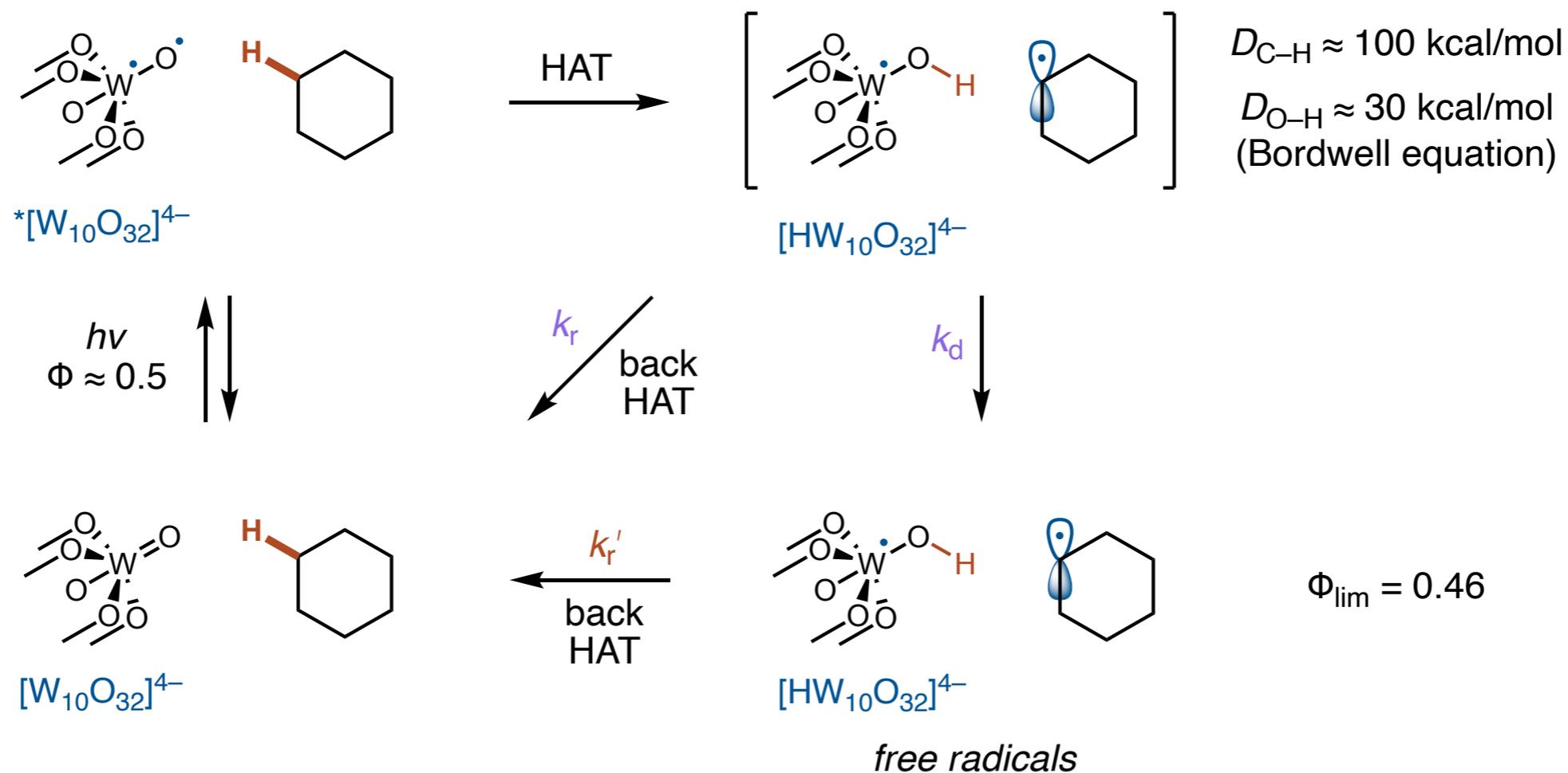
$$k_r' = 8 \cdot 10^9$$

but recombination is diffusion limited!!

Duncan, D. C.; Fox, M. A. *J. Phys. Chem. A* **1998**, *102*, 4559–4567.

Dondi, D.; Fagnoni, M.; Albini, A. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2006**, *12*, 4153–4163.

A problem that has bugged me for a while...



Why is back HAT such a minor pathway?

Outline

■ Introduction to cage effects

- *General definition, theoretical predictions*

■ Experimental support for the existence of cage effects

- *Quantum yields, product ratios as a function of reaction medium*

■ Parameters determining the magnitude of cage effects

- *Viscosity, reaction energetics, spin state, radical size, initial separation*

■ Recent case studies

- *Presence in biorelevant systems, transient absorption studies*

Outline

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Definition of radical cage effects

radicals are (almost) always generated in pairs



if generated close together, they can react before diffusing apart



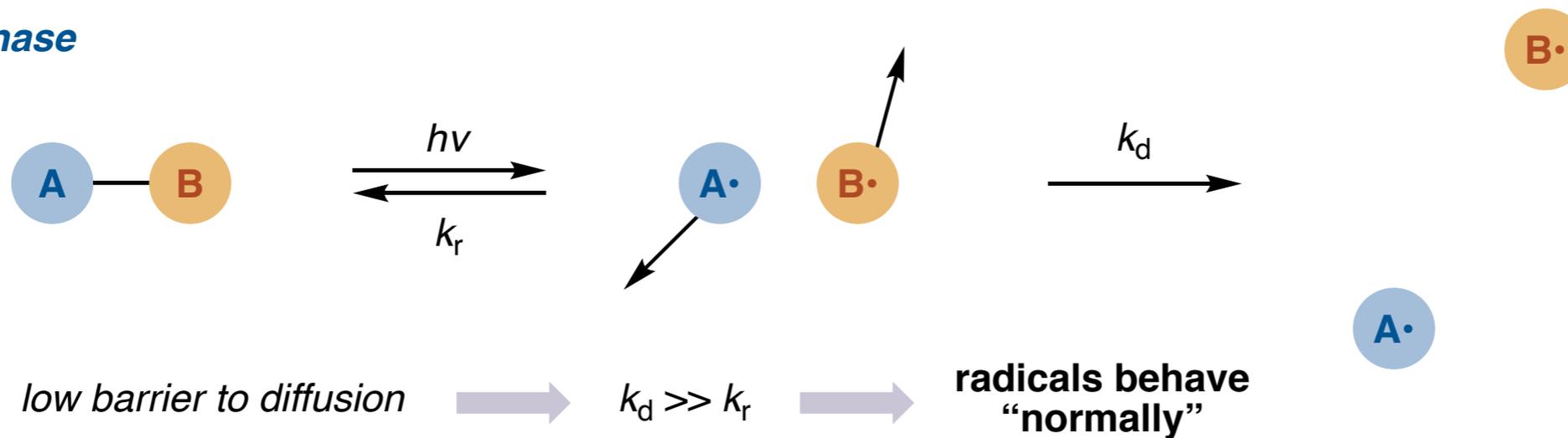
radical cage effect:

increased likelihood that diffusive separation will be slower than radical pair recombination in solution

Introduction to "cage" effects

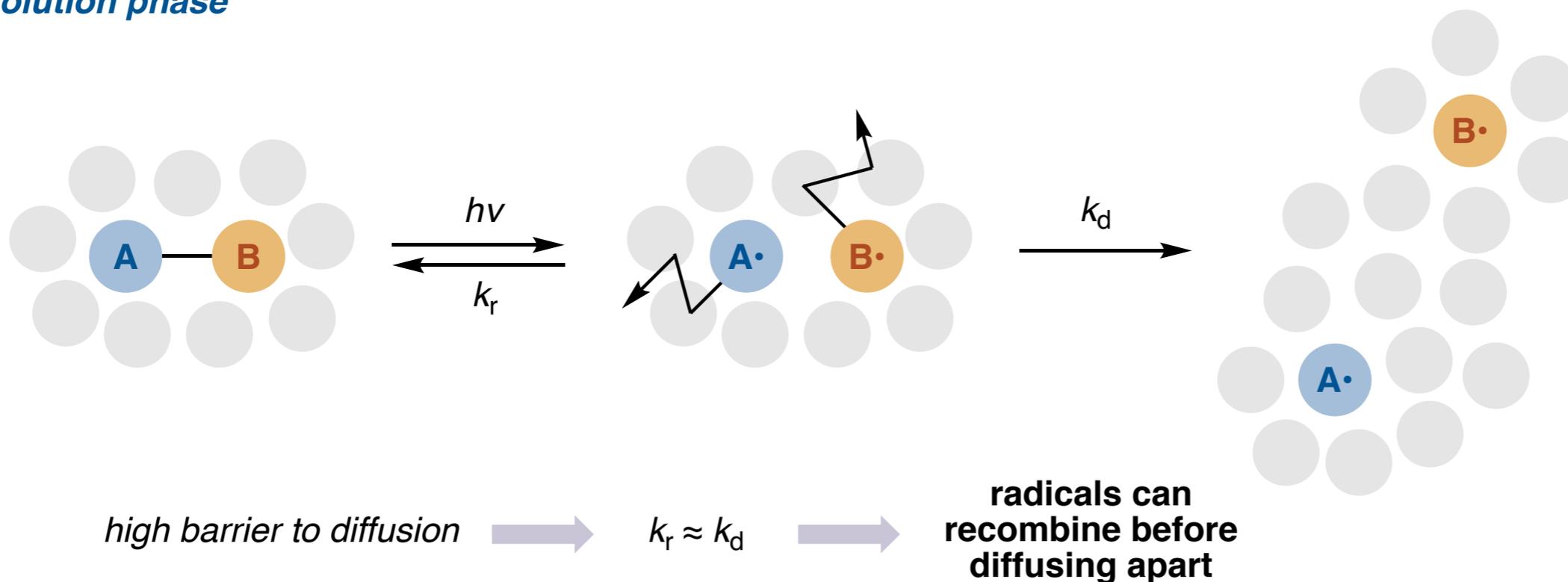
- Pairs of radicals generated in the gas phase rapidly separate

gas phase



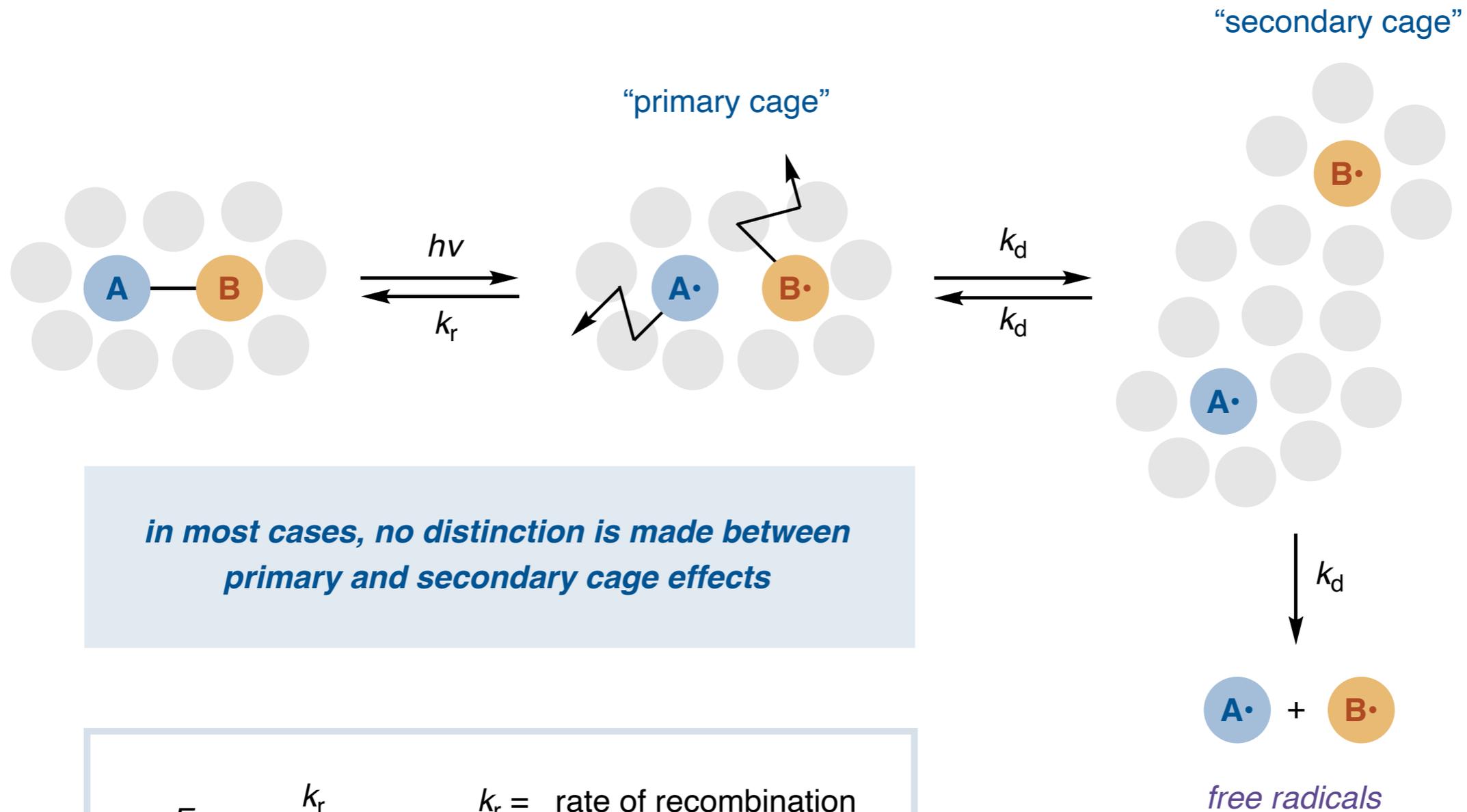
- Pairs of radicals generated in solution must break through surrounding solvent to diffuse apart

solution phase



Introduction to “cage” effects

- Radicals that have broken free of the initial cage can diffuse back together



in most cases, no distinction is made between primary and secondary cage effects

$$F_{\text{CP}} = \frac{k_r}{k_r + k_d}$$

fraction of radicals that react in-cage

$k_r =$ rate of recombination of radical pair

$k_d =$ rate of diffusion of resulting radicals

free radicals

First report of “primary recombination effect”

- First prediction of differences between gas-phase and solution-phase radical recombination



James Franck.

17 April 1933 – becomes first German academic to resign in protest of laws excluding Germans of Jewish descent from government positions, published resignation in national press

November 1933 – moves to Johns Hopkins

SOME REMARKS ABOUT FREE RADICALS AND THE PHOTOCHEMISTRY OF SOLUTIONS.

BY PROFESSOR J. FRANCK AND DR. E. RABINOWITSCH (*Göttingen*).

Received 18th September, 1933.

B. Primary Recombination-Effect.—Even though a molecule in solution may happen to dissociate after absorption, and the radicals or atoms formed in this way separate with a certain amount of kinetic energy, this excess energy will be at once lost in collisions with the solvent and the particles will be stopped at a distance of one or few molecular diameters from one another. The appropriate picture of a strongly-illuminated solution—say of bromine in CCl_4 —is thus not one showing free bromine atoms distributed at random in the liquid (as Br_2 -molecules really are), but one, in which some of the atoms are still in the neighbourhood of their former molecule-partners.

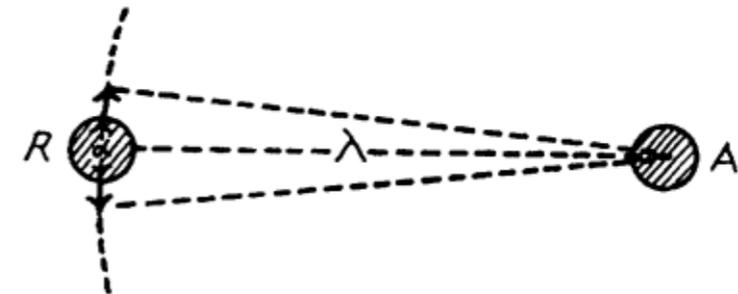


FIG. 2.

recognized that molecular dissociation in solution would not result in a random distribution of radicals

Prediction of parameters that determine magnitude of cage effects

- Franck and Rabinowitsch predict many of the effects that determine “cage efficiency”

Together with the “dissipation-effect” the “primary recombination” must affect the quantum yield of photochemical reactions in liquids in so far as they really go through the intermediary of free unsaturated particles and do not use one of the two ways pointed out on page 122, which do not involve a dissociation into two atoms or radicals.

The quantitative efficiency of the two effects considered above must depend on the nature of the dissociation-products⁹ and of the solvent (e.g., on its viscosity, etc.) as well as on the absorbed wave-length. In particular, the recombination-effect will probably show a wave-length dependence, decreasing with the increasing energy of the absorbed quantum. A greater excess-energy will permit the dissociation products to find their way through the surrounding “walls” of the solvent and to put more molecular layers between them before coming to rest.

different observed quantum yield in solution vs. gas phase

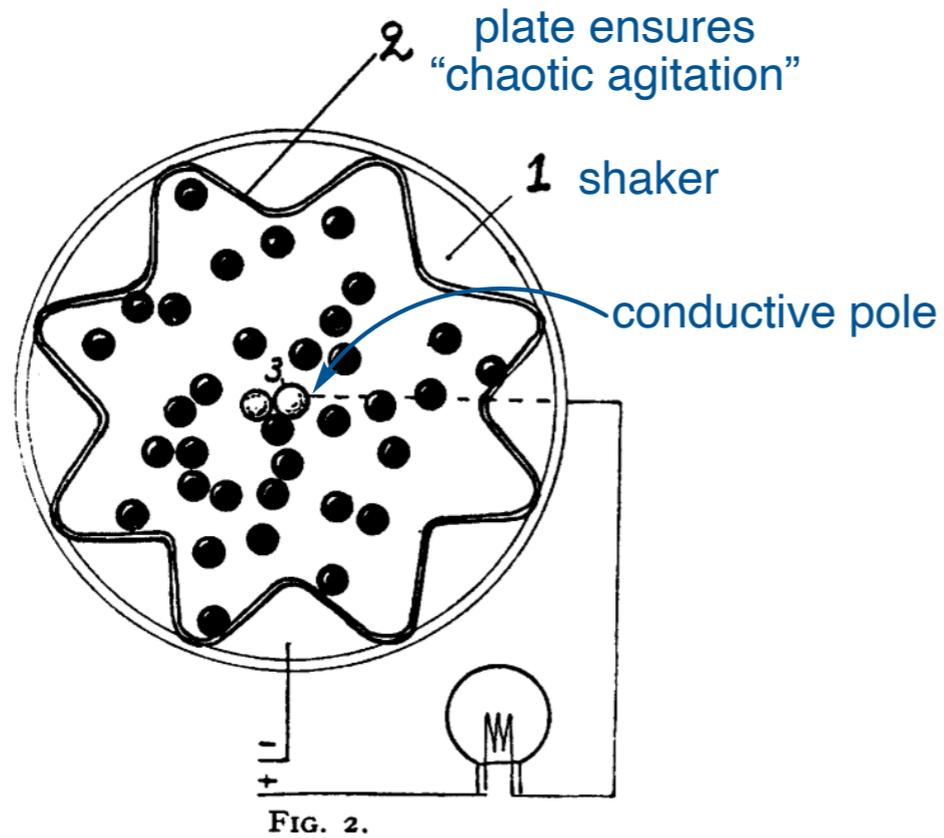
viscosity dependence of cage effect magnitude

wavelength dependence due to role of excess energy in facilitating cage escape

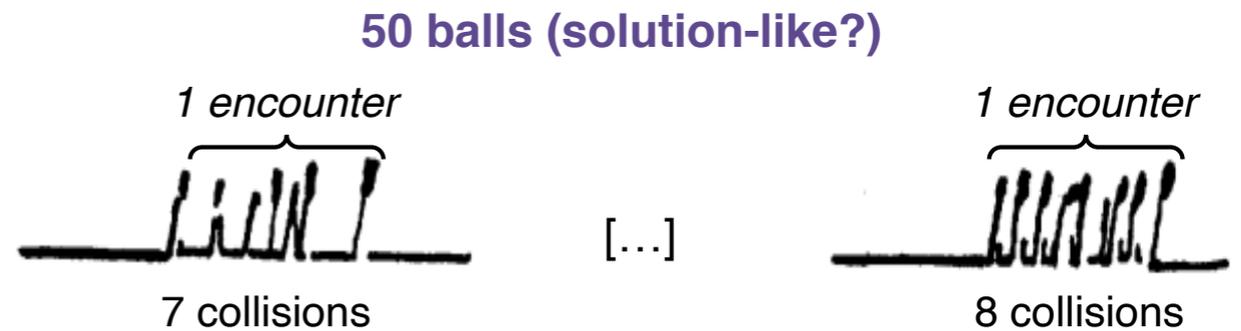
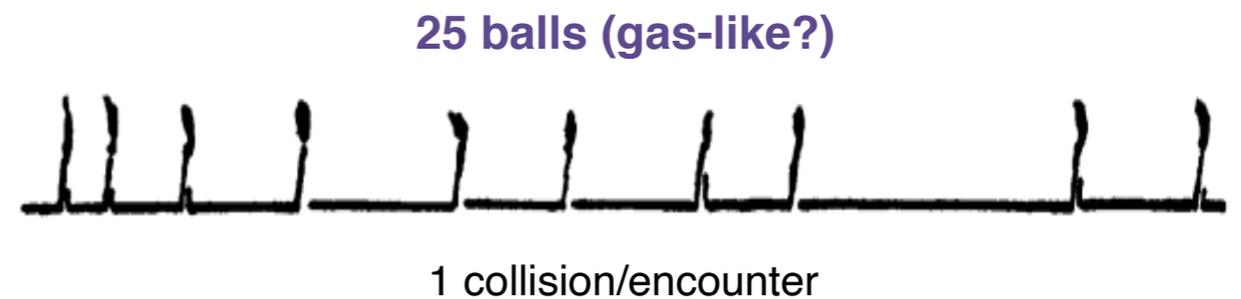
all of these predictions were later experimentally validated

Early “experimental” support for cage effects in dense media

- Physical model suggests increased density favors multiple consecutive collisions



-  conductive ball (1)
-  insulating ball (N)

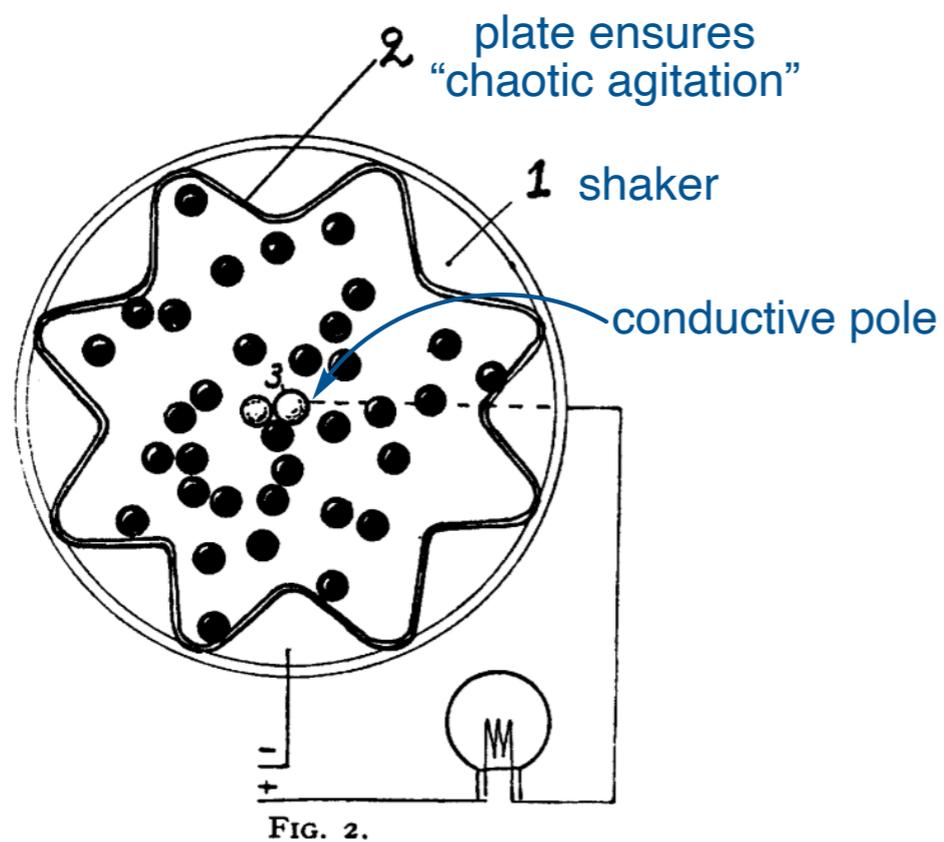


when the conductive ball contacts the conductive pole, a signal is measured

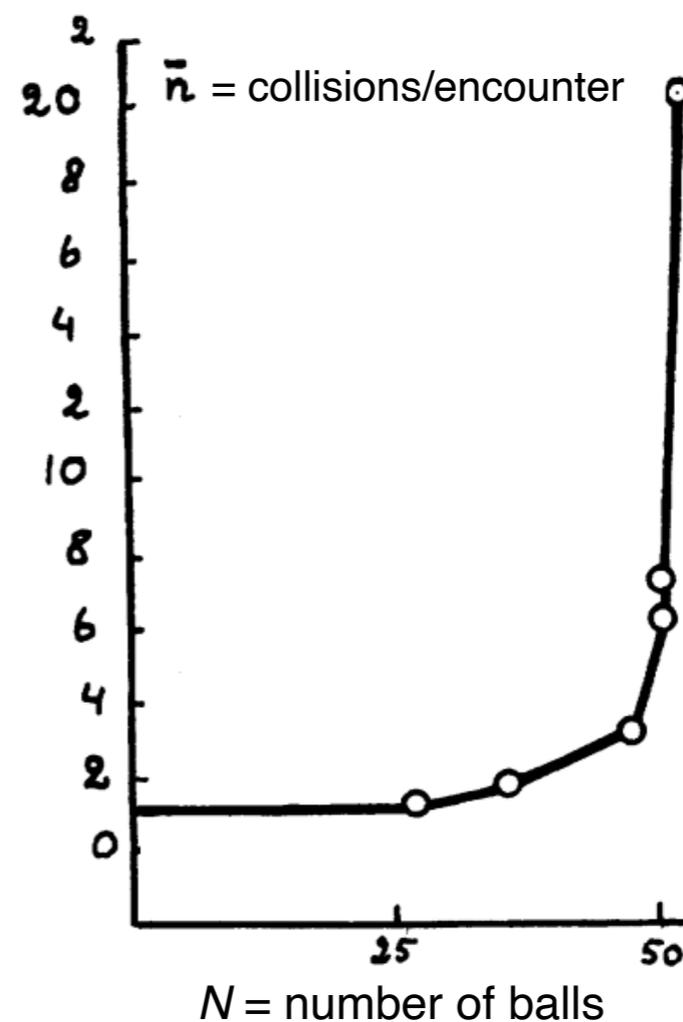
total number of collisions is independent of the number of balls

Early “experimental” support for cage effects in dense media

- Physical model suggests increased density favors multiple consecutive collisions



- conductive ball (1)
- insulating ball (N)



when the conductive ball contacts the conductive pole, a signal is measured

N



number of collisions remains constant
 collisions per encounter increases
 number of encounters decreases

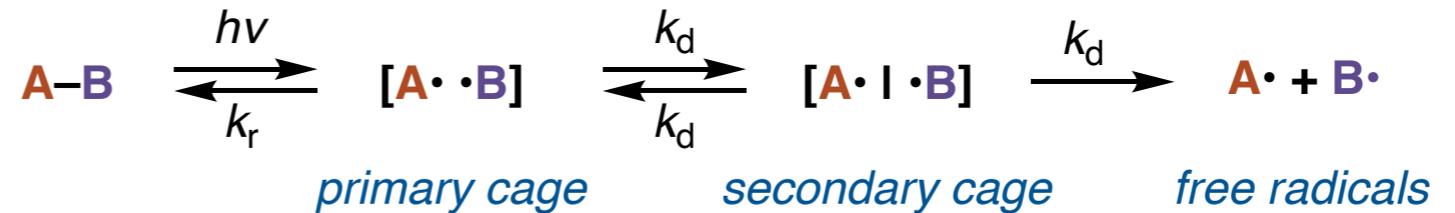
Theoretical model of radical cage effects

- Noyes model predicts dependence on viscosity, initial separation, translational energy, mass, and radius



“Having absolutely no imagination, I majored in chemistry”

“The only chemical reactions that are well understood are those that have not been investigated in detail”



α = probability of reaction per encounter

β = probability of reencounter

β' = probability that a pair of molecules separating from an encounter will eventually react

$$\beta' = \alpha\beta + \alpha(1 - \alpha)\beta^2 + \alpha(1 - \alpha)^2\beta^3 + \dots = \alpha\beta/(1 - \beta + \alpha\beta)$$

substitute for β ; account for initial displacement

rearrange to solve for $F = k_d/k_r$

$$F = \left(\frac{R_0 - 2b}{2b} \right) + \left(\frac{R_0}{2b} \right) \left[\left(\frac{A_T + \alpha A_E}{\alpha} \right) \left(\frac{1}{\eta} \right) + \left(\frac{A_T \cdot A_E}{\alpha} \right) \left(\frac{1}{\eta} \right)^2 \right]$$

R_0 = initial separation

b = diffusion radius

η = viscosity

$A_E = \frac{[m(h\nu - E)]^{1/2}}{6\pi b^2}$ = translation energy of the separating fragments

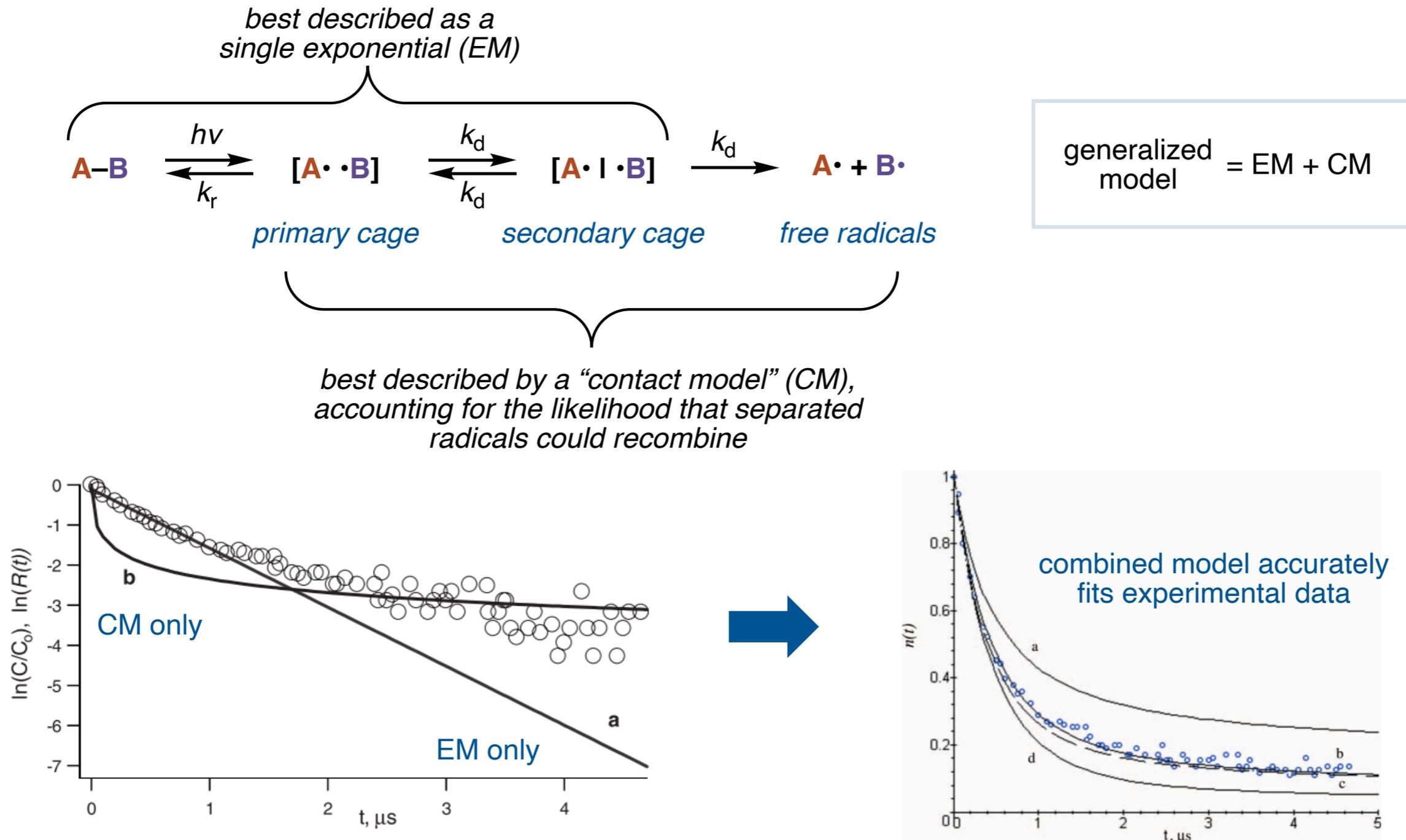
$A_T = \frac{[(3/2)mk_B T]^{1/2}}{6\pi b^2}$ = kinetic energy term

Noyes, R. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1955**, 77, 2042–2045.

Koenig, T.; Fischer, H. “Cage” Effects. In *Free Radicals*; Kochi, J., Ed.; Wiley: New York, 1973; Vol. 1; pp 164–170.

Theoretical model of radical cage effects

- More accurate models for cage reactions remain an active field of research



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- *Presence in biorelevant systems, transient absorption studies*

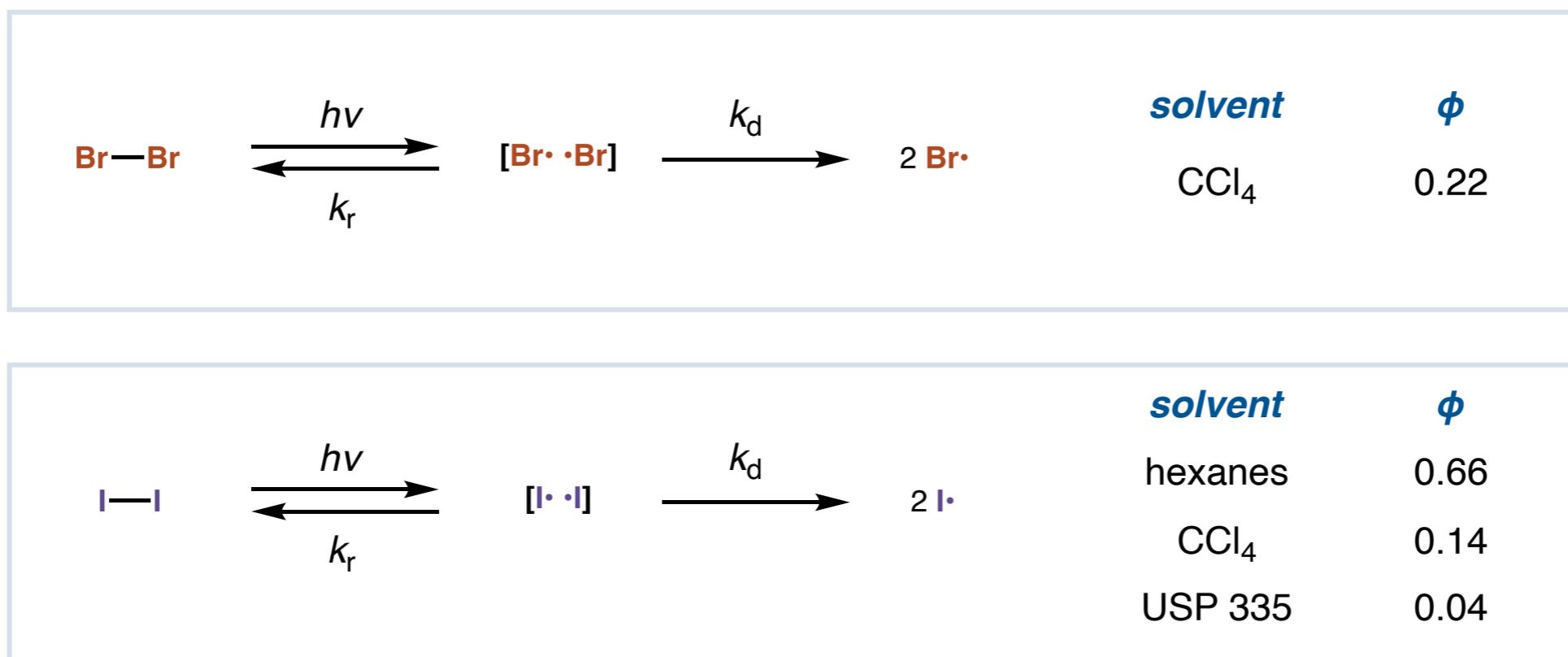
Quantum yield of halide photodissociation

- Gas-phase data shows near perfect photodissociation efficiency



quantum yield ≈ 1
(gas phase)

- Solution data shows much lower quantum yield



Strong, R. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1965**, *87*, 3563–3567.

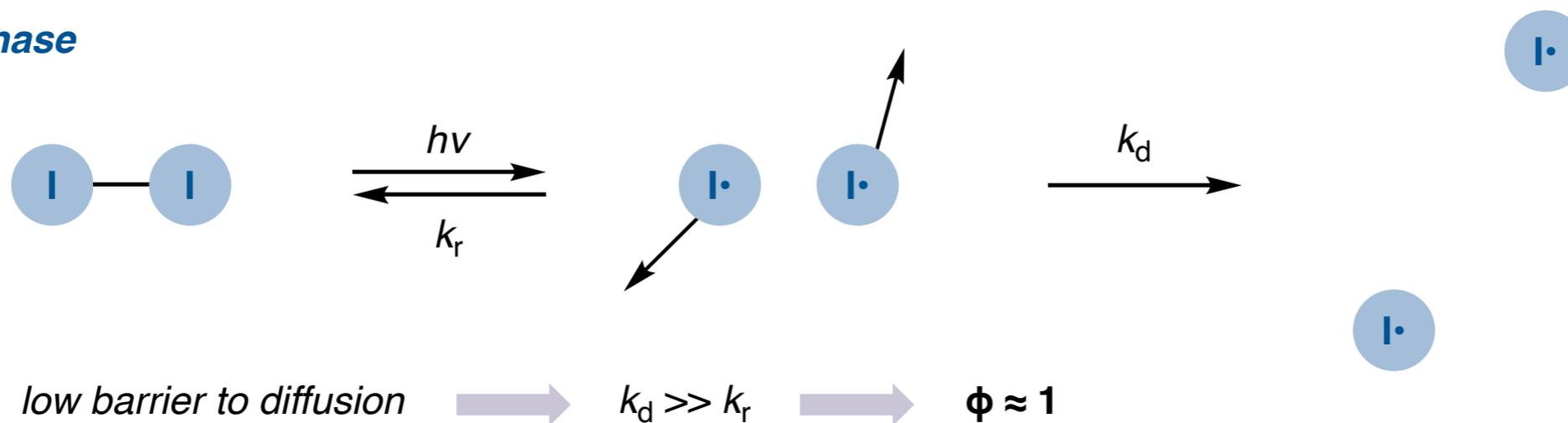
Lampe, F. W.; Noyes, R. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1954**, *76*, 2140–2144.

Noyes, R. M. *Z. Electrochem.* **1960**, *69*, 153–156

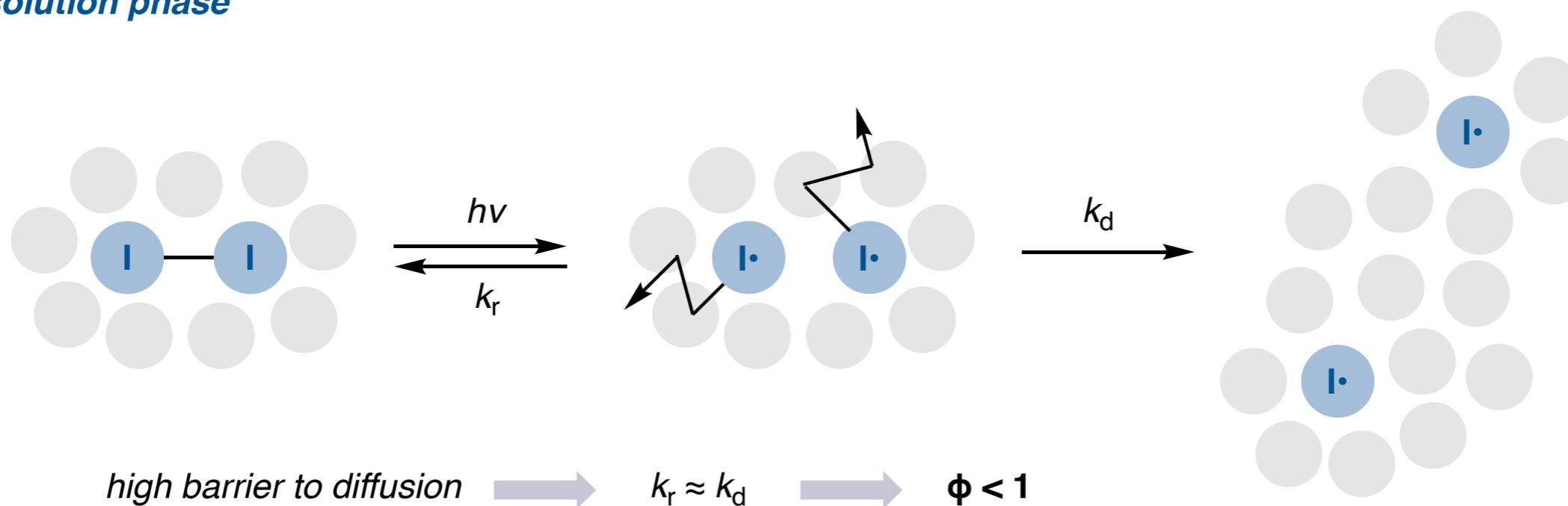
Effect of solvent on quantum yield supports cage effects

- Effect of solvent on quantum yield rationalized based on cage effect

gas phase

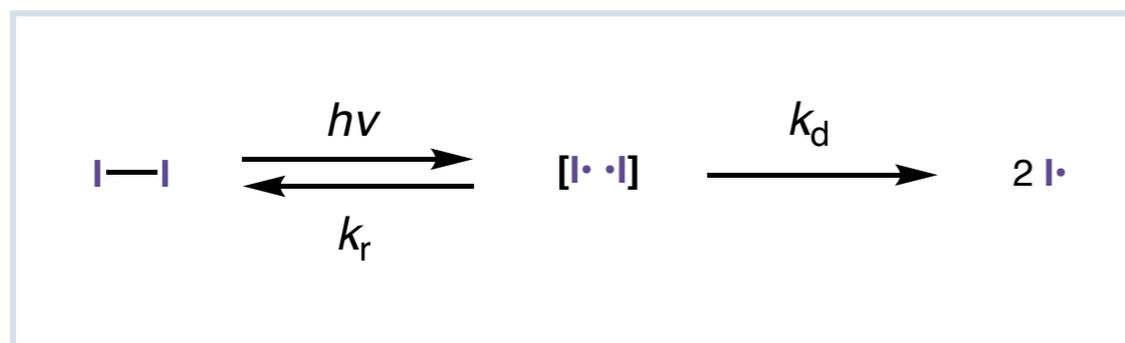


solution phase



Quantum yield of halide photodissociation

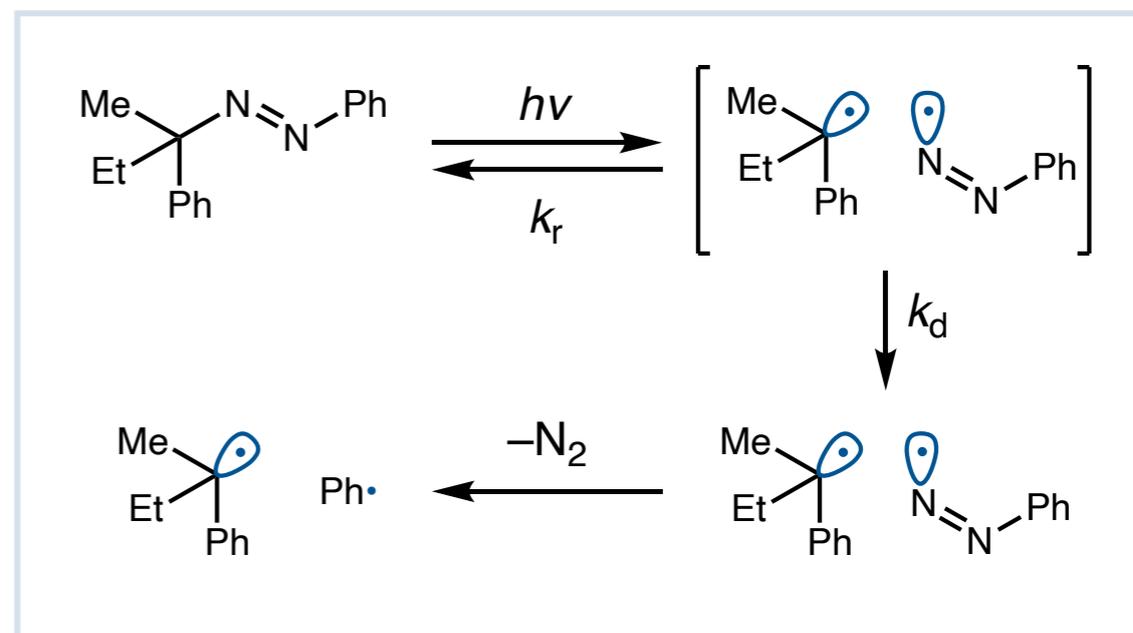
- Iodine, azo photodissociation quantum yields show significant solvent viscosity effects



<i>solvent</i>	η (cP)	ϕ
hexane	0.29	0.66
Bayol D	1.7	0.18
NF 65	54	0.086
NF 95	80	0.048
USP 180	180	0.038

viscosity ↓ ↑ quantum yield

quantum yield decreases with increasing solvent viscosity

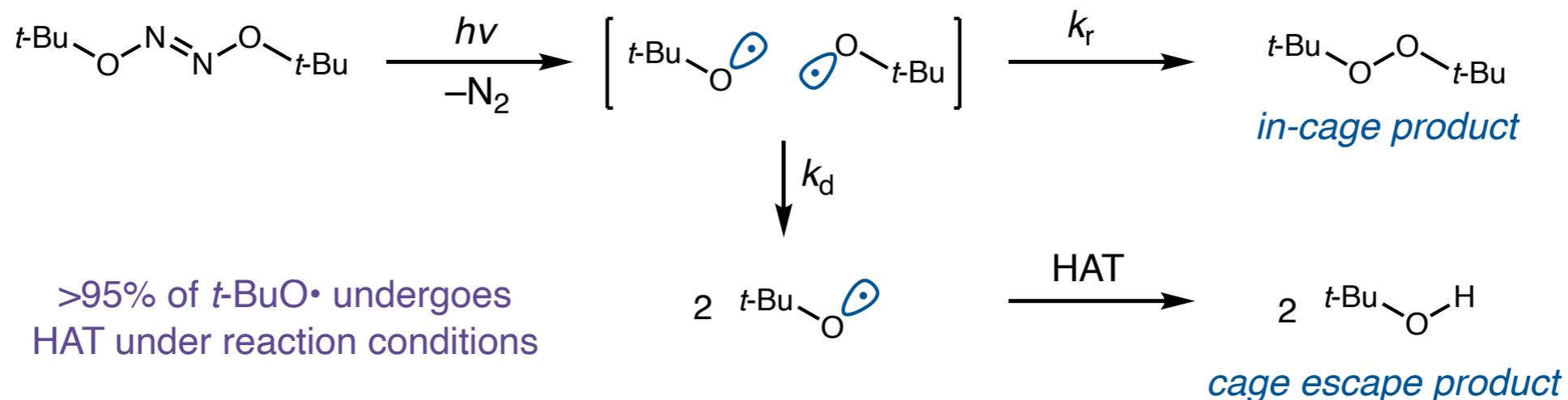


<i>solvent</i>	ϕ
octane	0.044
decane	0.039
dodecane	0.035
hexadecane	0.029

viscosity ↓ ↑ quantum yield

Effect of viscosity on product ratios

- Product ratios in hyponitrite decomposition support presence of cage effects



$$F_{\text{CP}} = \frac{(t\text{-BuO})_2}{(t\text{-BuO})_2 + t\text{-BuOH}/2}$$

*fraction of radicals
that react in-cage*

**% Nujol in
octadecane**

η (cP)

F_{CP}

20%

0.6

0.16

40%

1.1

0.21

60%

2.8

0.30

70%

4.7

0.36

80%

8.7

0.46

90%

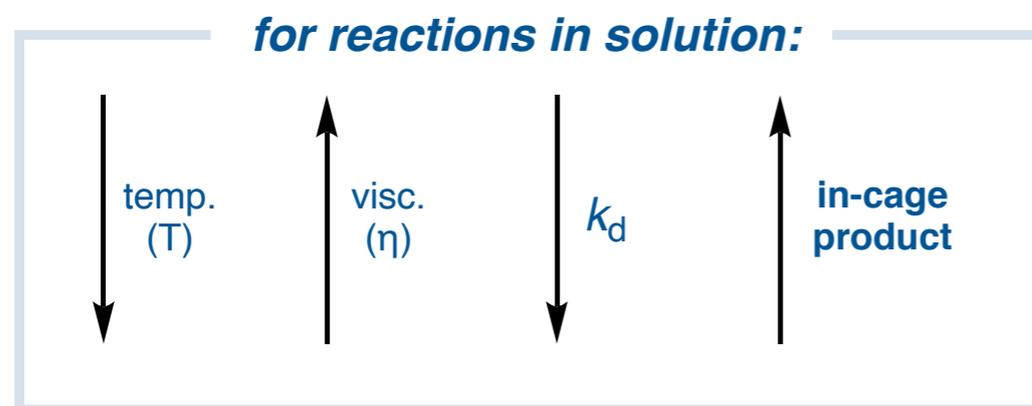
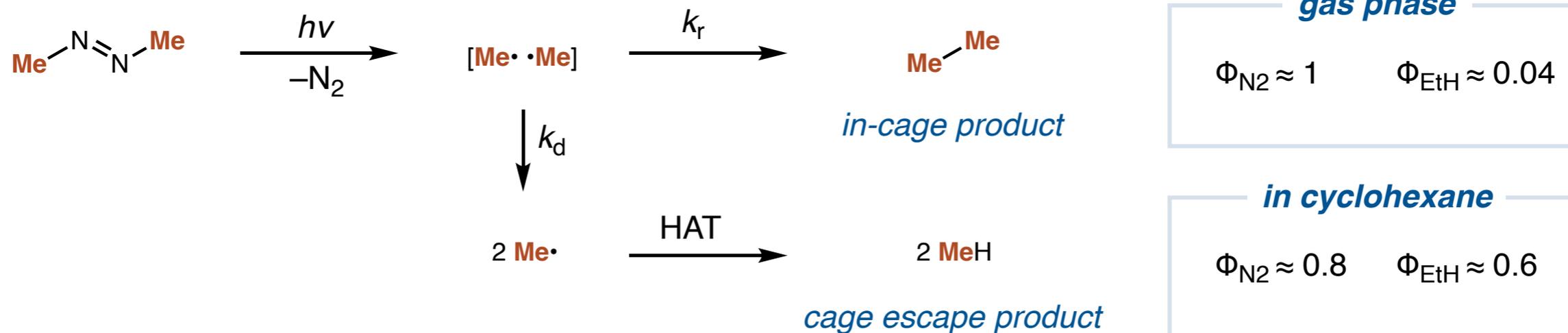
22

0.56

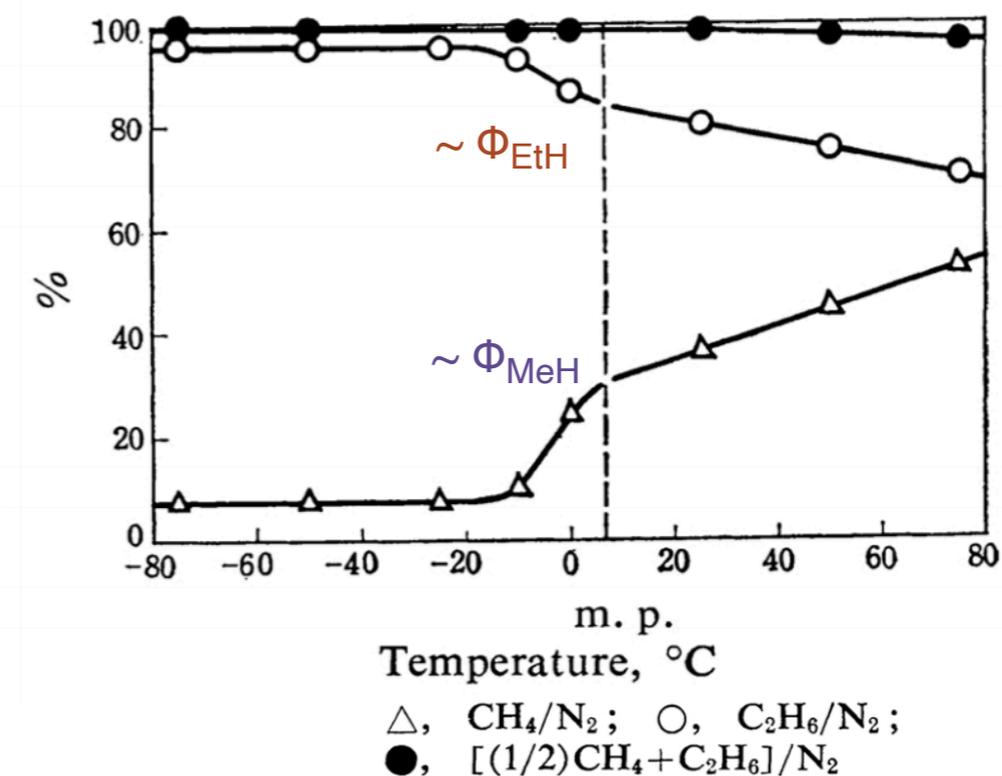
viscosity ↓
↑ $t\text{-BuOH}/(t\text{-BuO})_2$

Formation of ethane from azomethane

- Quantum yield of ethane formation dramatically increases in condensed phases

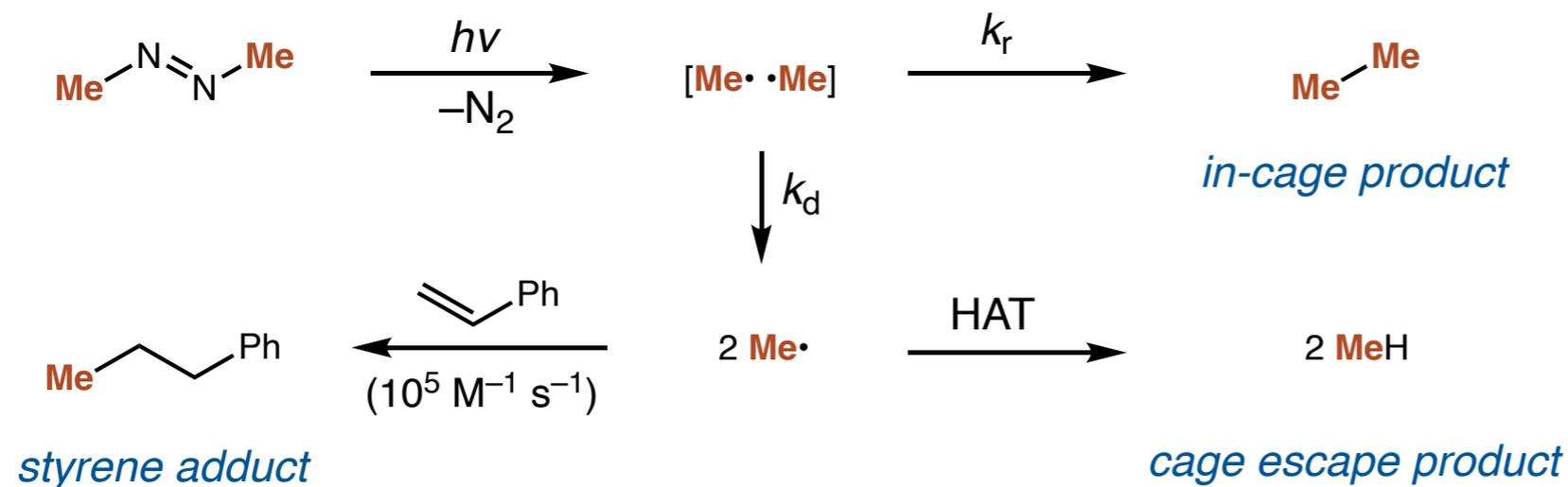


further increase in Φ_{EtH} observed in frozen solution

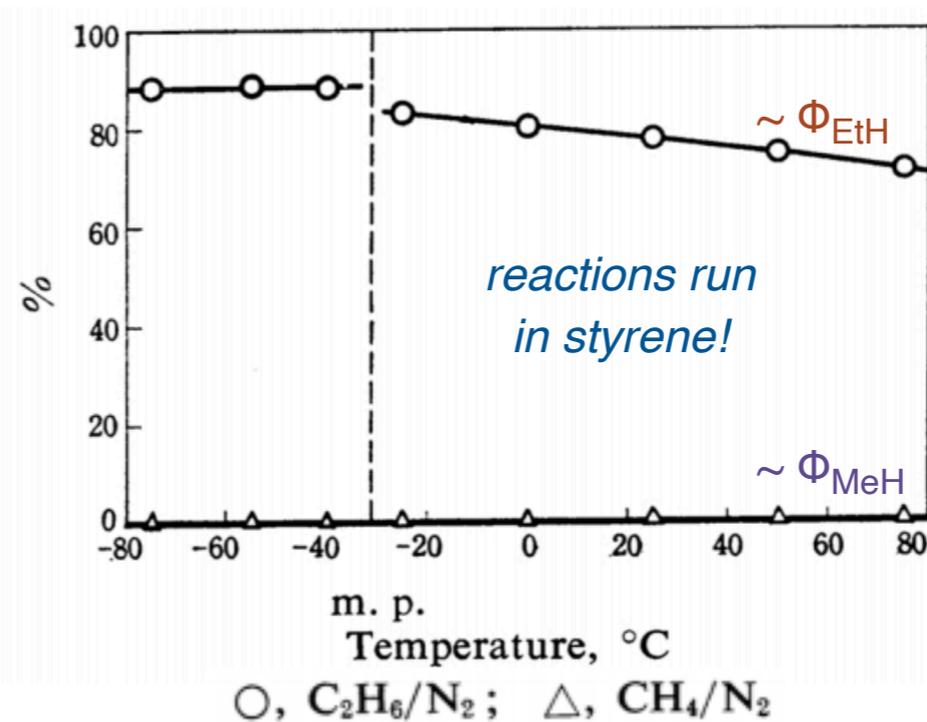
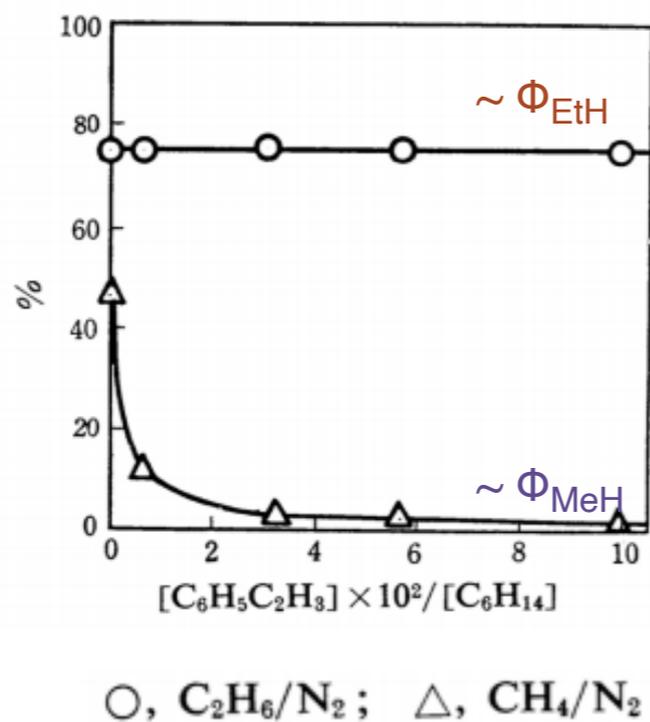


Photolysis of azomethane in the presence of styrene

- Presence of potential quencher does not affect the rate of formation of ethane in solution



results suggest all ethane is formed in solvent cage

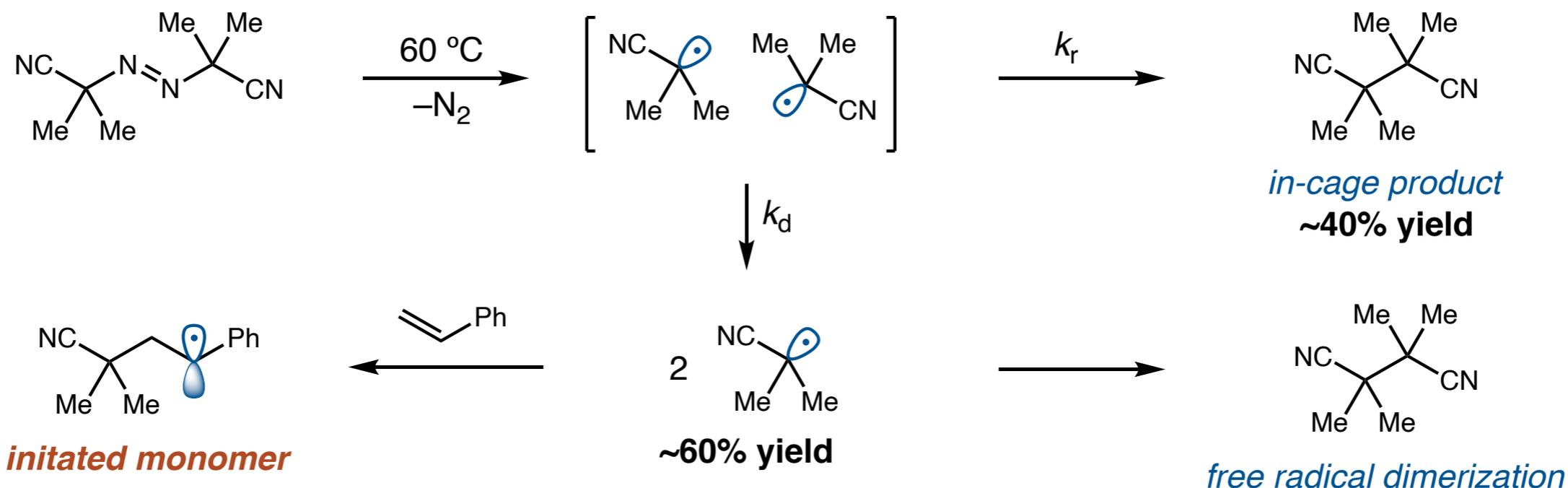


Kodama, S. *Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.* **1962**, *35*, 652–657.

Kodama, S. *Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.* **1962**, *35*, 824–827.

Cage effects in polymerization

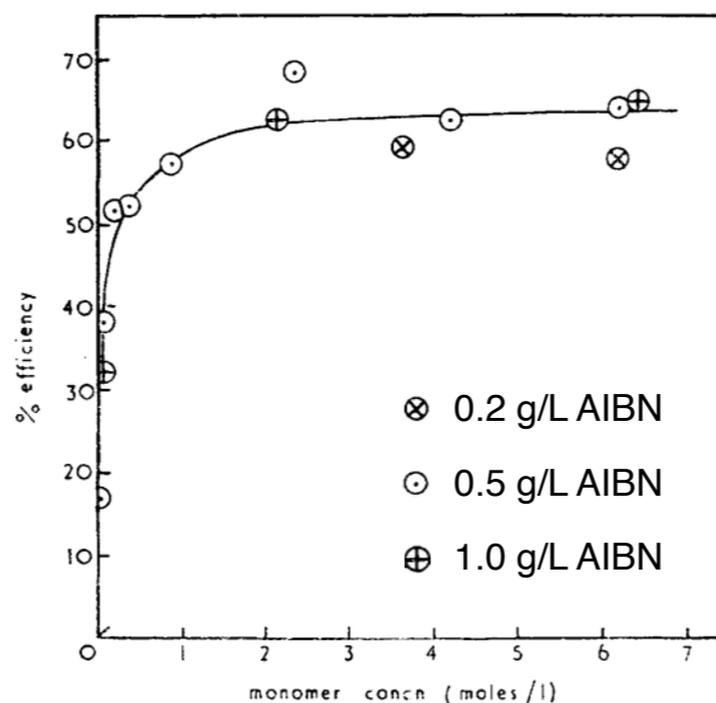
- Under thermal conditions, a significant proportion of consumed AIBN does not initiate polymerization



concentration dependent
at low [styrene]



*free radical dimerization
competitive with initiation*



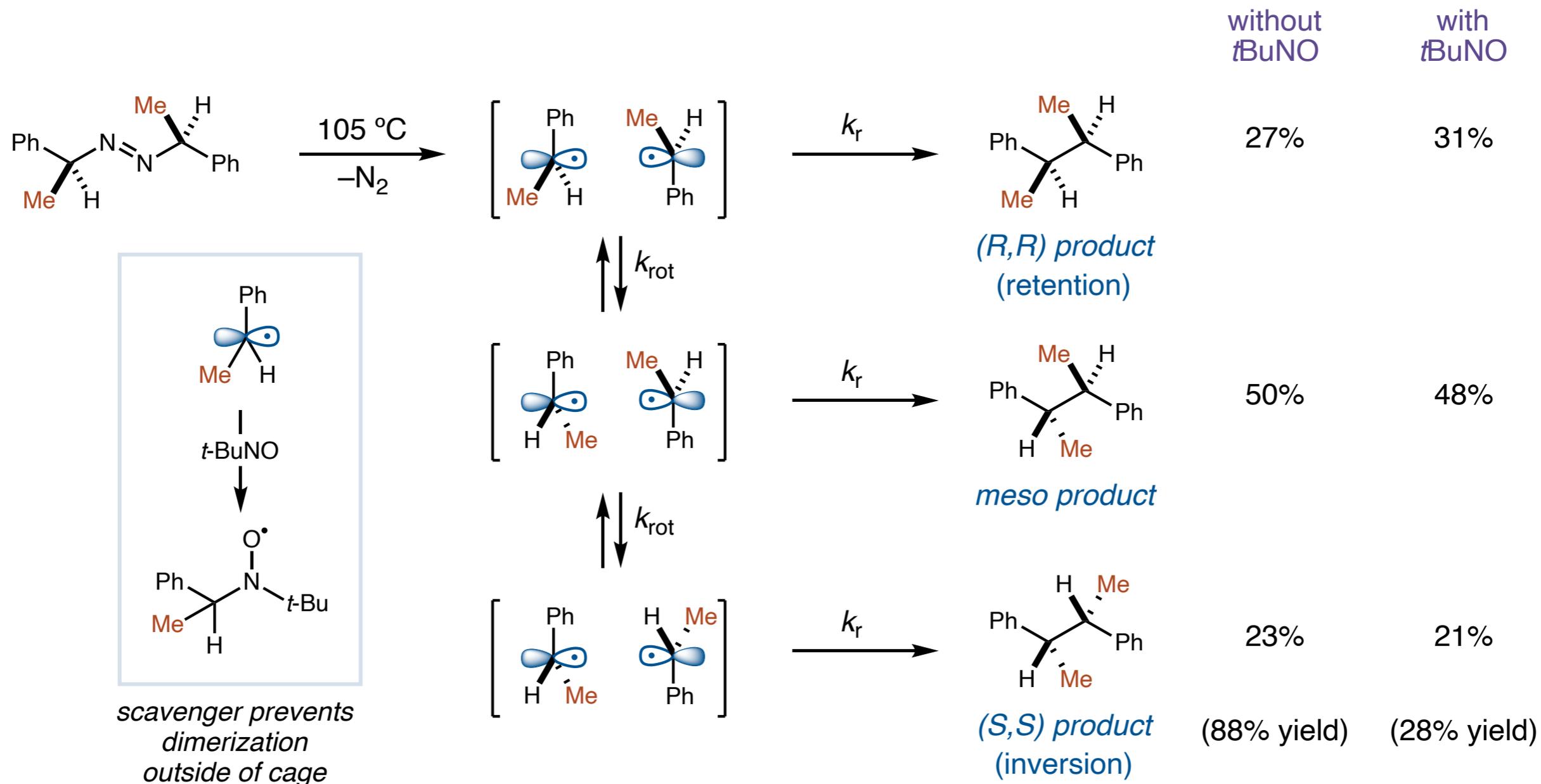
concentration independent
at high [styrene]



*~40% of dimerization
occurs in solvent cage*

Stereospecificity in in-cage recombination

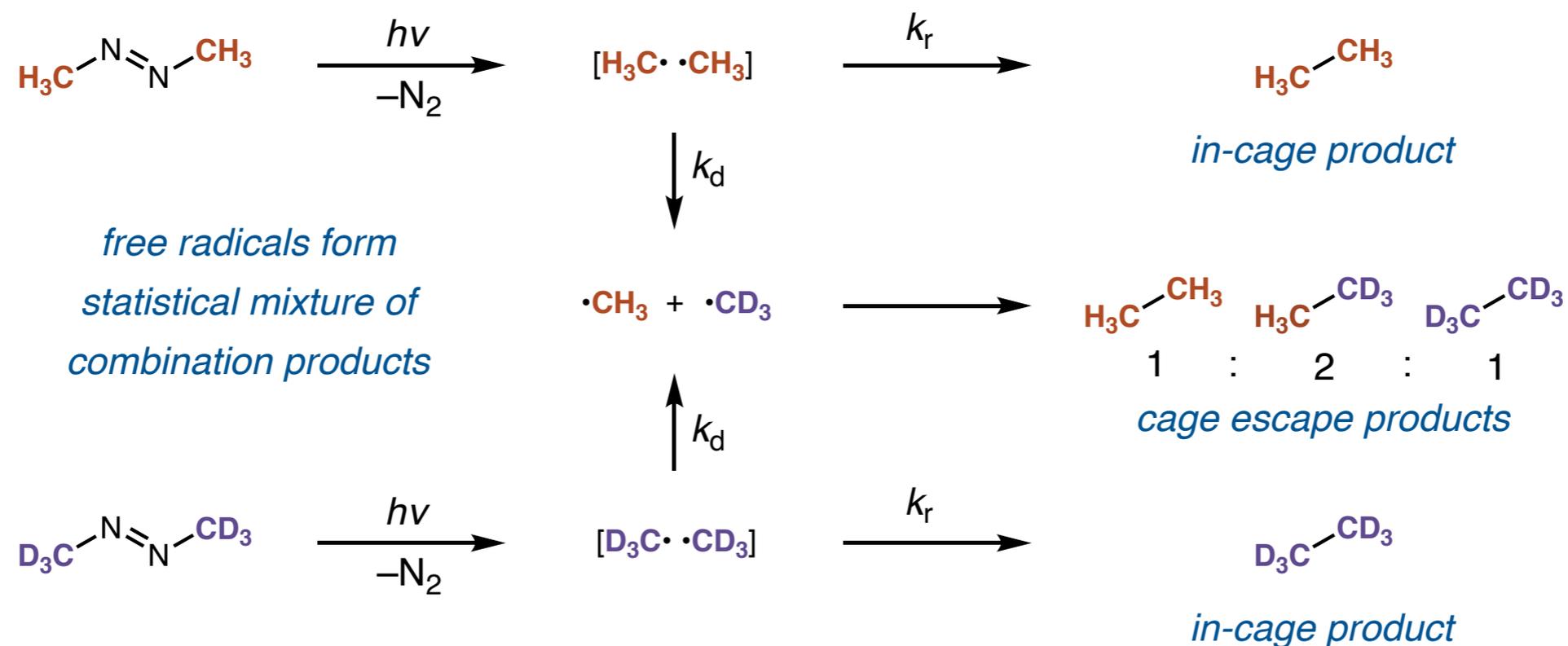
- Stereoretentention in radical-radical recombination product supports in-cage reaction



recombination in cage is competitive with molecular rotation

Isotopic labeling in azomethane photolysis

- Statistical mixture of products observed in gas phase, exclusively homoproduts observed in solution



	CH_3CH_3	CH_3CD_3	CD_3CD_3
gas phase	25	50	25
isooctane	~50	<2	~50

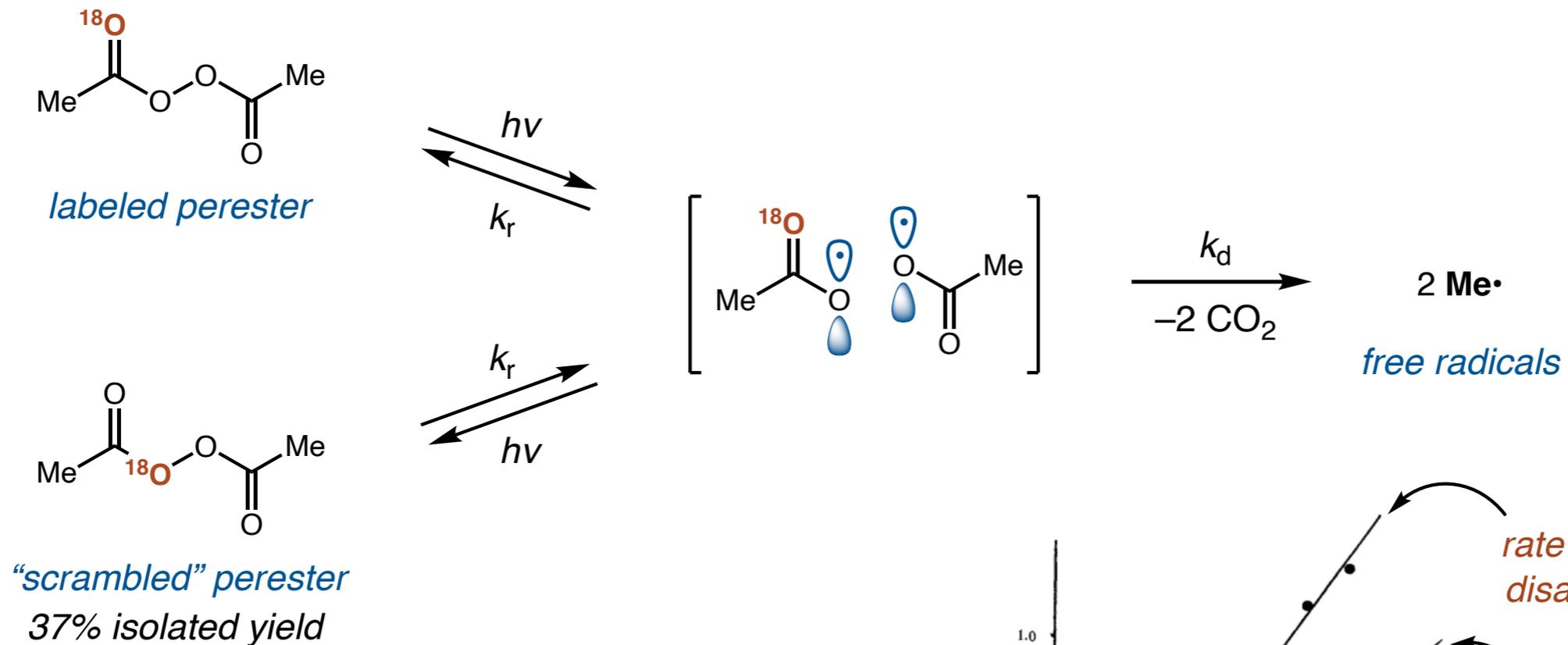
recombination outcompetes cage escape in solution

Rebert, R. E.; Ausloos, P. *J. Phys. Chem.* **1962**, *66*, 2253–2258.

Lyon, R. K.; Levy, D. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1961**, *83*, 4290.

Isotope labeling experiments

- Perester decomposition shows oxygen scrambling competitive with free radical generation



$$k_r \approx k_d$$

*in cage recombination is
competitive with cage escape*

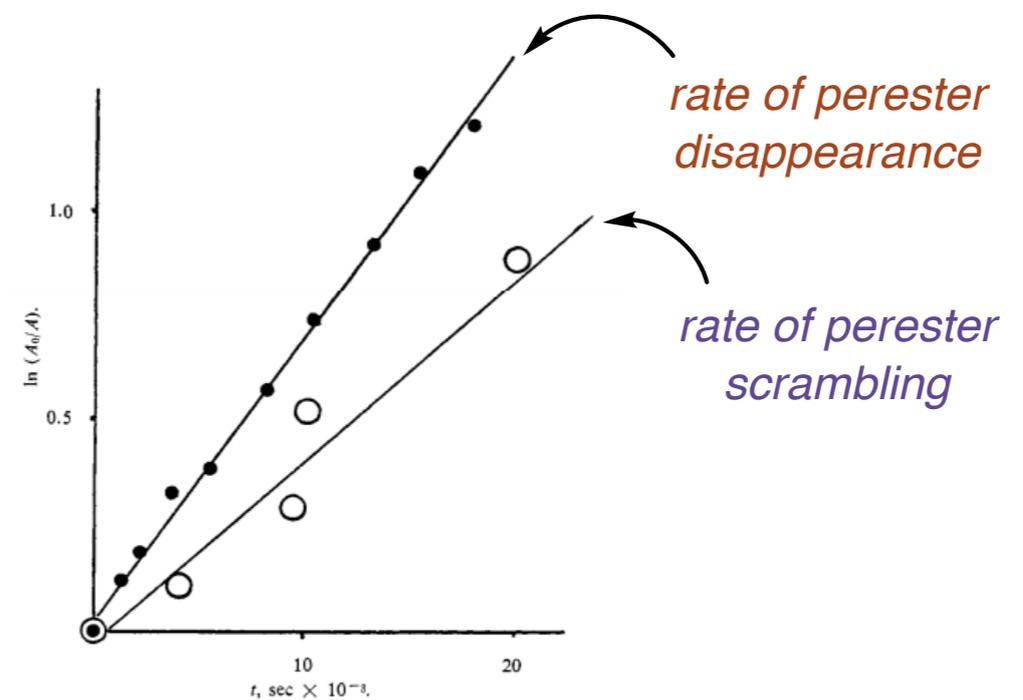
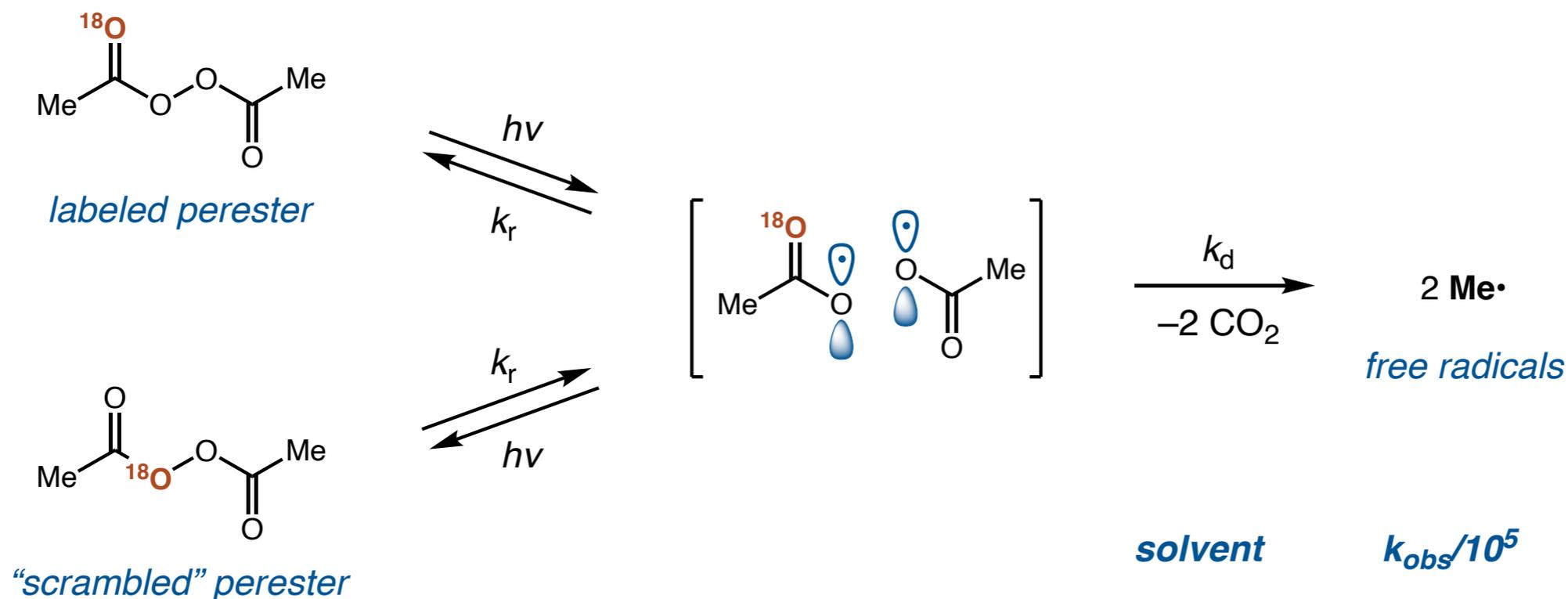


Figure 1. First-order rate plots for the disappearance of total acetyl peroxide (small circles, data obtained by infrared spectroscopy) and for scrambling of carbonyl label in recovered acetyl peroxide (large circles).

Perester decomposition: viscosity effects

- The importance of cage effects to efficiency of methyl radical formation is supported by rate-viscosity relationship



$d(\text{AcO})_2/dt$ is a function of
solvent viscosity
supports in-cage recombination

solvent	$k_{\text{obs}}/10^5$
heptane	7.7
octane	7.3
decane	6.9
dodecane	6.3
tetradecane	6.0
hexadecane	5.4

viscosity ↓
reaction rate ↑

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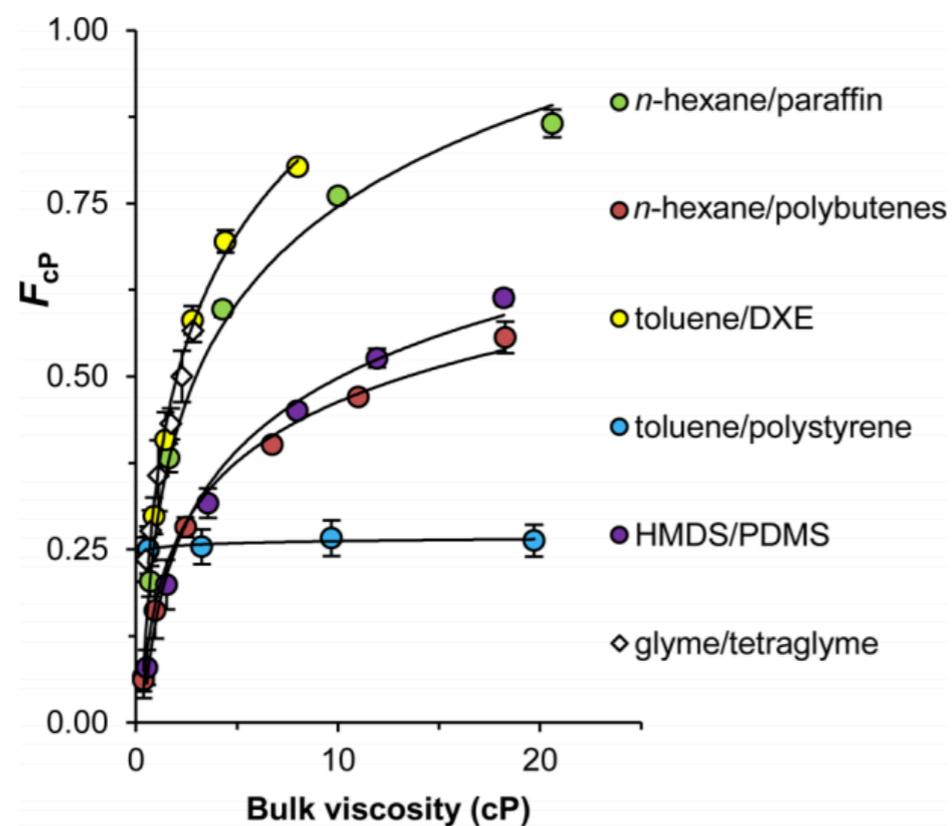
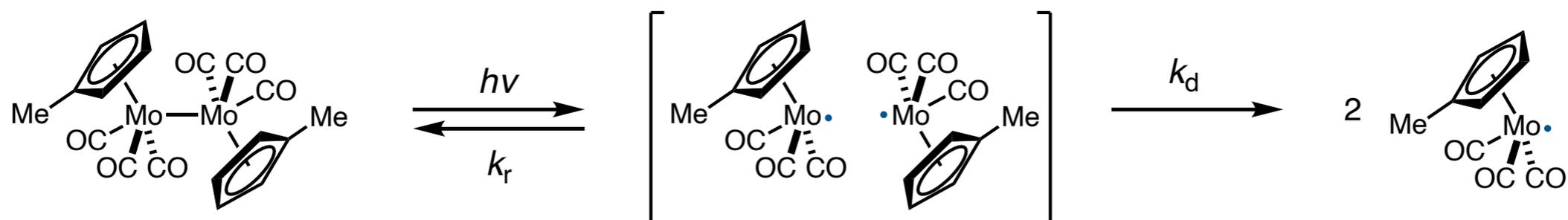
- *Viscosity, reaction energetics, spin state, radical size, initial separation*

■ Recent case studies

- *Presence in biorelevant systems, transient absorption studies*

Effect of viscosity on cage efficiency

- Bulk viscosity provides predicts cage efficiency for a single solvent system, but not between systems



$$F_{\text{CP}} = \frac{k_r}{k_r + k_d}$$

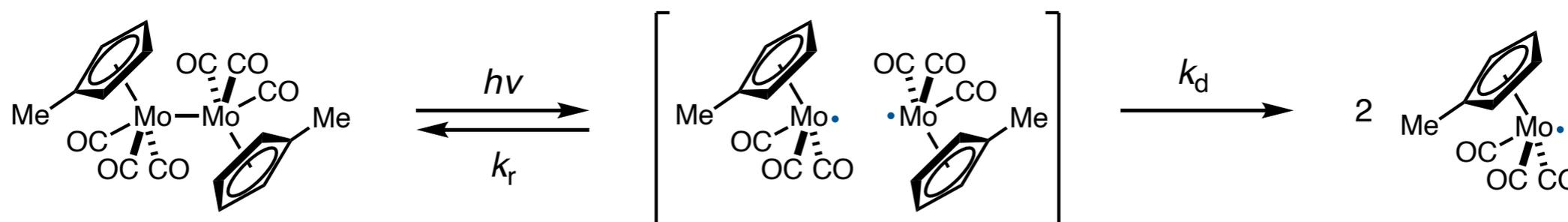
*fraction of radicals
that react in-cage*

all free radicals quenched

***at a given bulk viscosity, different solvents
give different cage efficiencies***

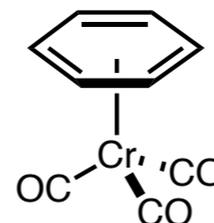
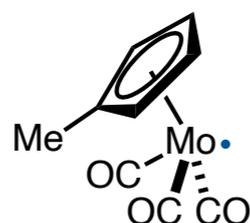
Microviscosity as a better predictor of cage effects

- Bulk viscosity does not necessarily predict rate of diffusion at a molecular scale



How can we measure the rate of diffusion of a transient radical?

diffusion measured via DOSY



Δ mass = -40.9 Da
 Δ vol. = -6.81 Å³
 Δ dipole = -1.37 D

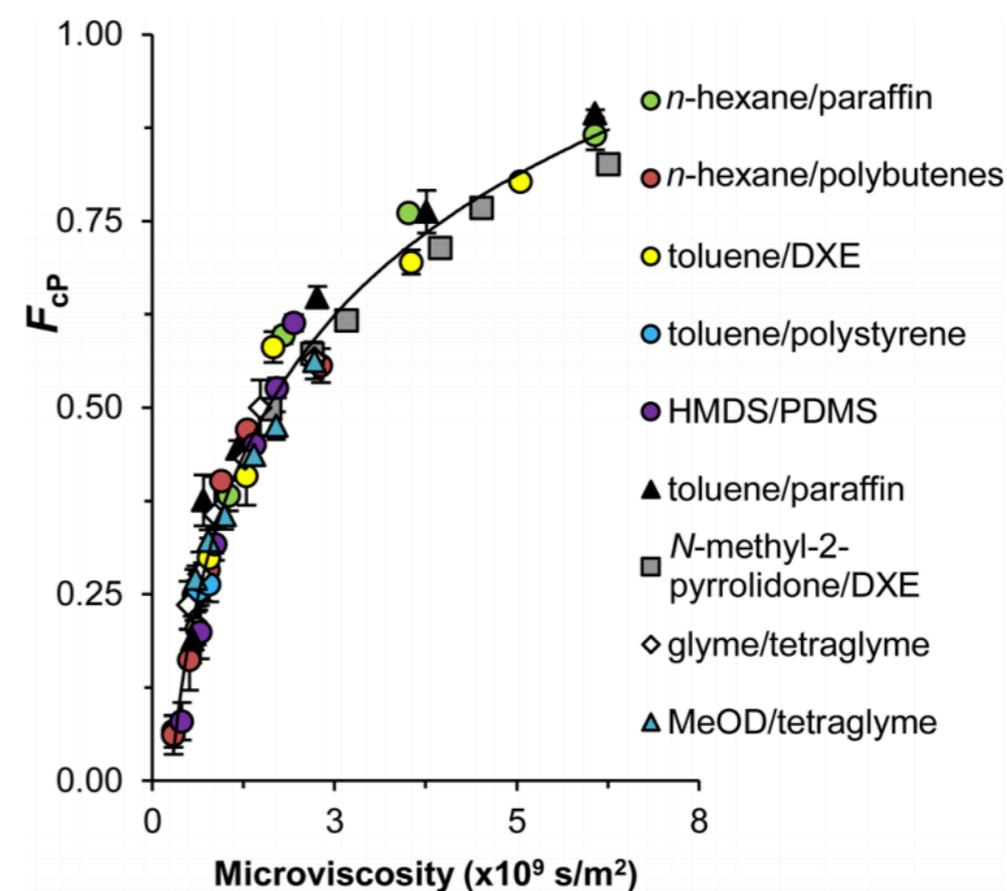
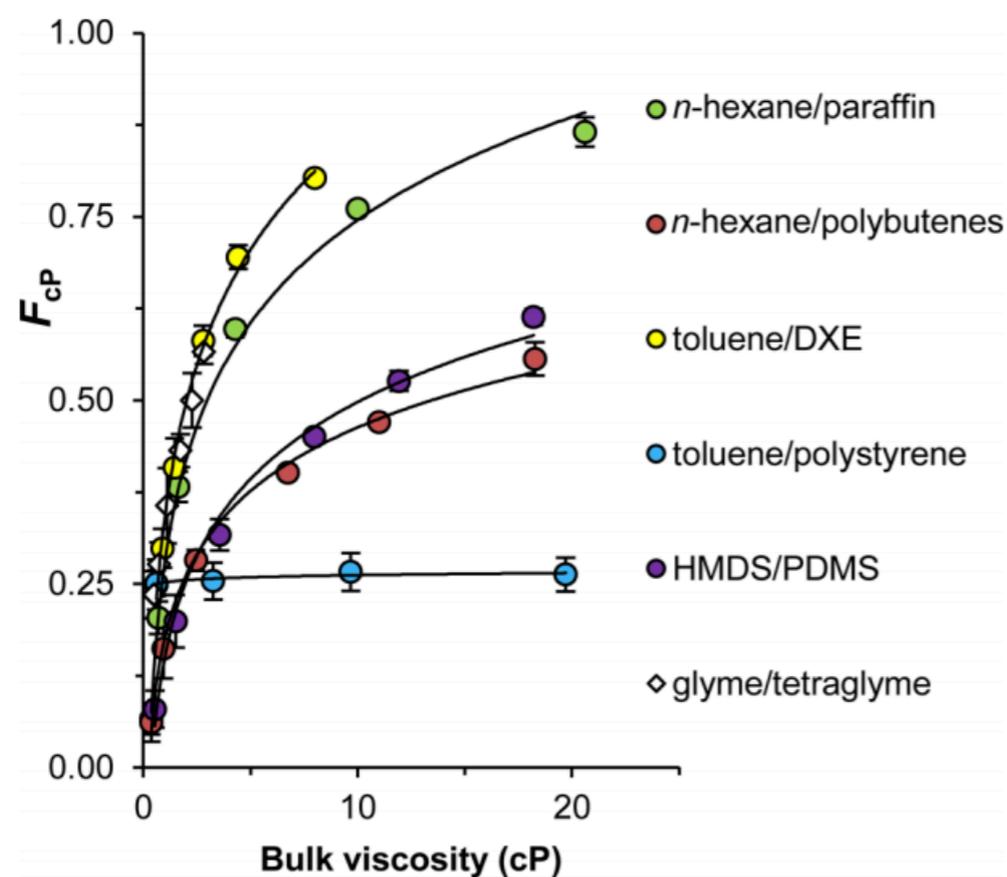
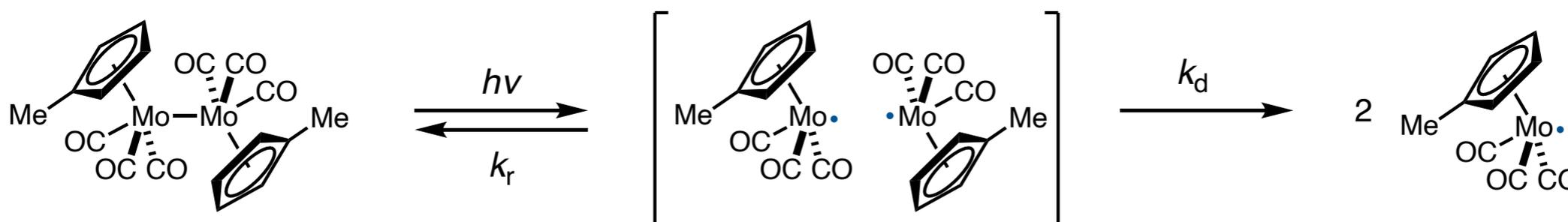
<i>solvent</i>	<i>bulk viscosity (cP)</i>	<i>microviscosity (s/m²) × 10⁹</i>
<i>n</i> -hexane/parrafin	0.36–20.61	0.29–6.28
toluene/polystyrene	0.61–30.22	0.60–0.83
methanol/tetraglyme	0.66–2.86	0.59–2.22

Barry, J. T.; Berg, D. J.; Tyler, D. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, *138*, 9389–9392.

Barry, J. T.; Berg, D. J.; Tyler, D. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, *139*, 14399–14405.

Microviscosity as a better predictor of cage effects

- Microviscosity enables successful prediction across solvent systems

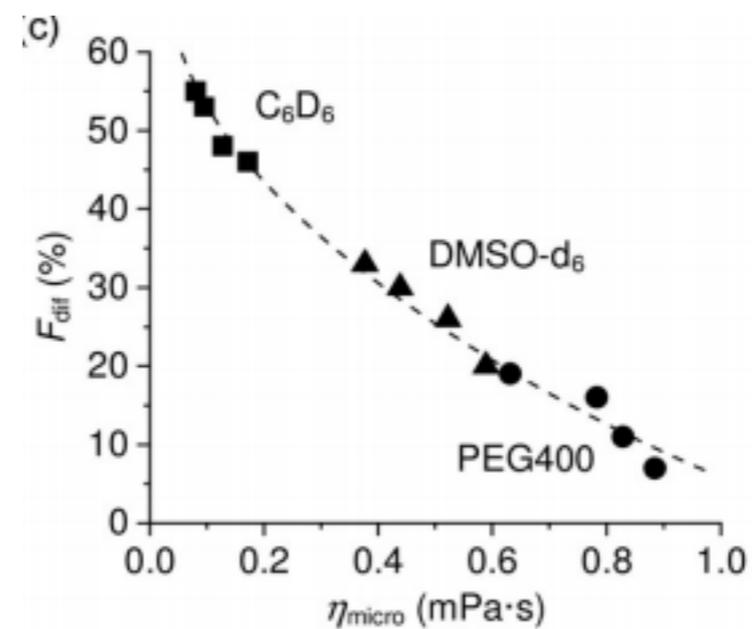
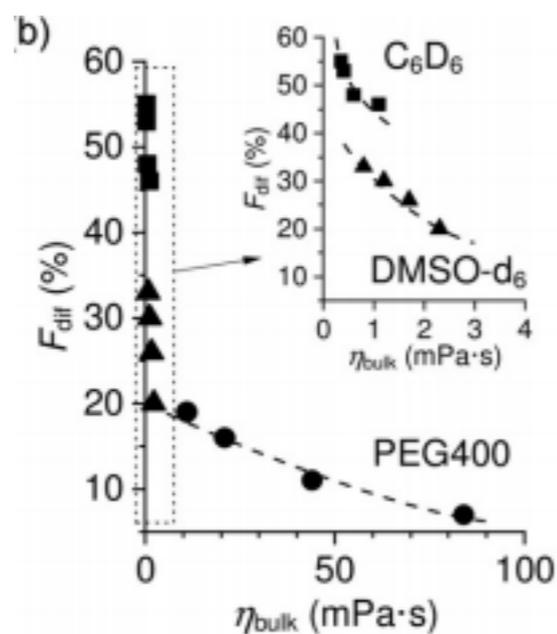
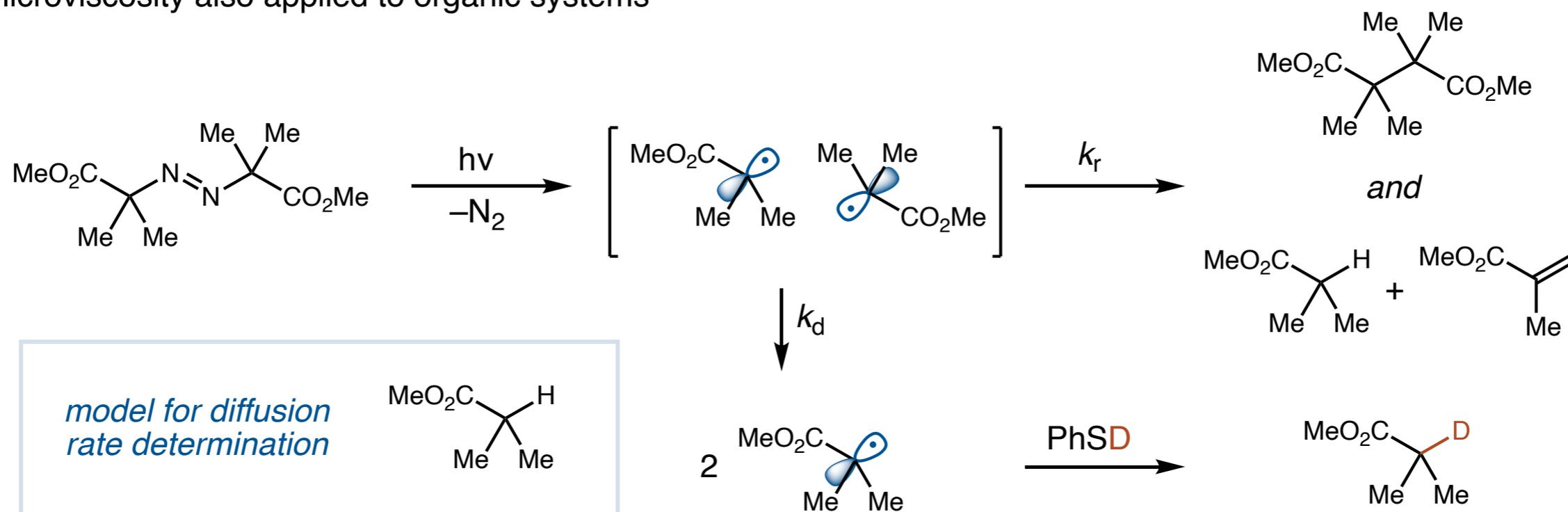


Barry, J. T.; Berg, D. J.; Tyler, D. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, *138*, 9389–9392.

Barry, J. T.; Berg, D. J.; Tyler, D. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, *139*, 14399–14405.

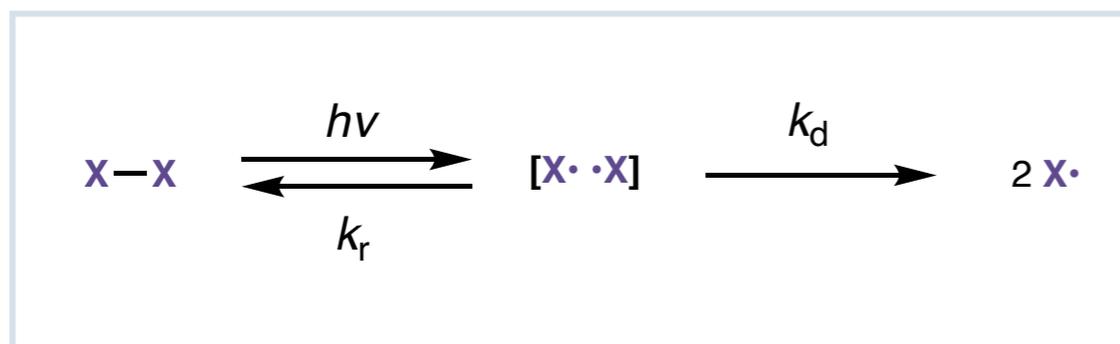
Application of microviscosity to organic radicals

Microviscosity also applied to organic systems



Effect of irradiation wavelength on cage efficiency

- Iodine, chlorine photodissociation show significant wave length effects



I₂ in hexane

λ (nm)	$h\nu - E_{\text{I-I}}$ (kcal/mol)	ϕ
405	35.0	0.83
436	30.0	0.66
546	16.6	0.46
579	13.9	0.44
643	8.9	0.40
735	3.3	0.31

wavelength

↓

excess energy

↑

quantum yield

↑

Cl₂ in CCl₄

λ (nm)	$h\nu - E_{\text{Cl-Cl}}$ (kcal/mol)	ϕ
308	35	0.16
337	27	0.22

higher excess photonic energy

↓

higher excess kinetic energy of products

↓

more efficient cage escape

↓

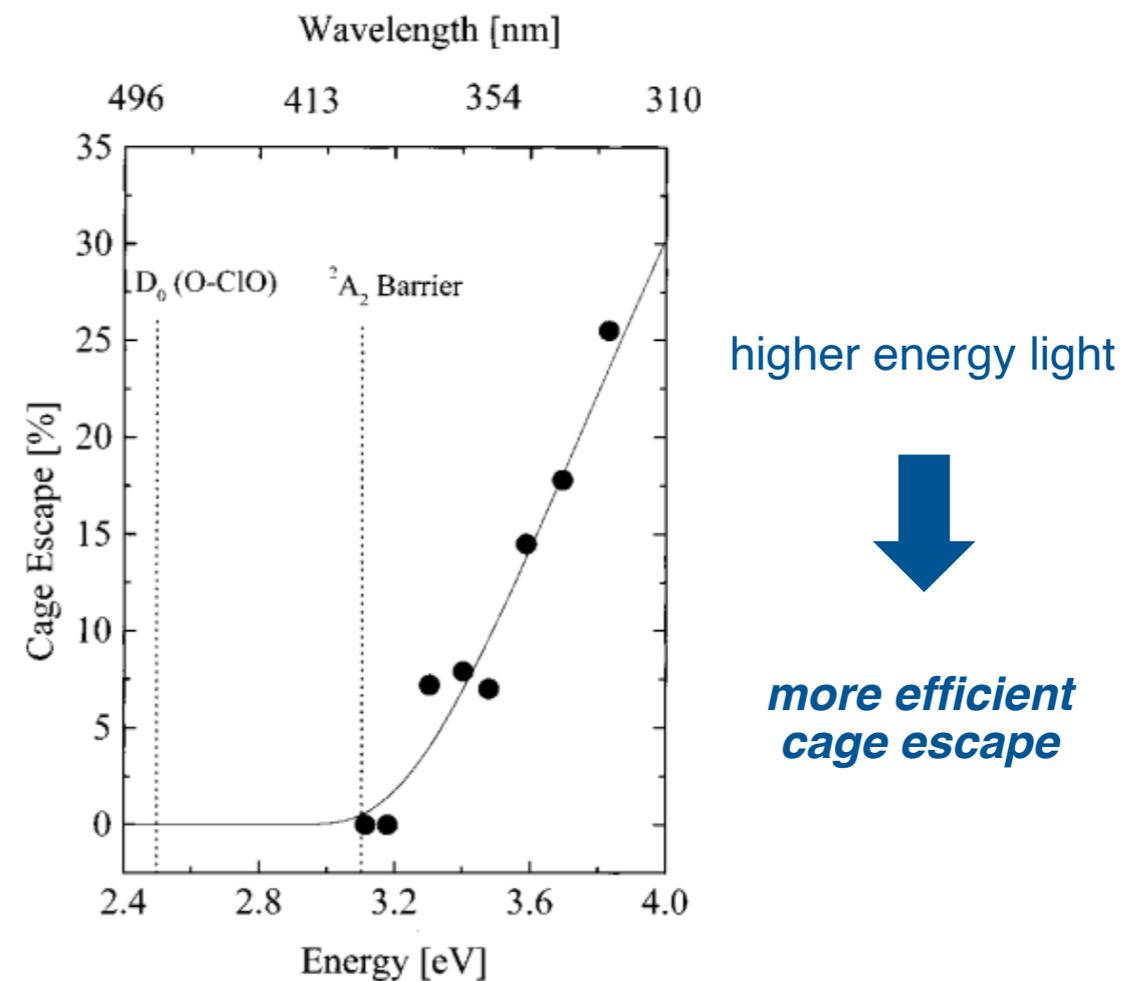
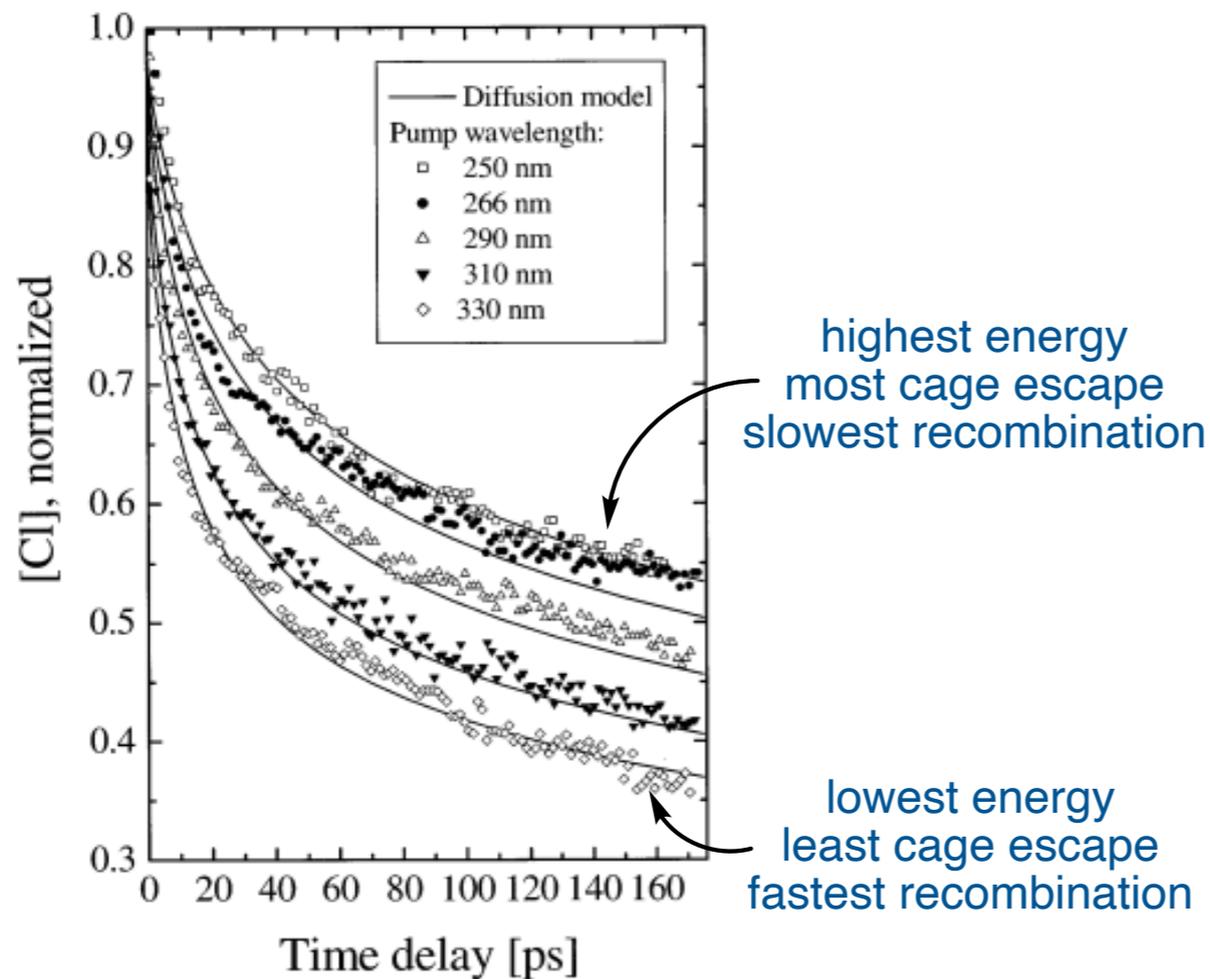
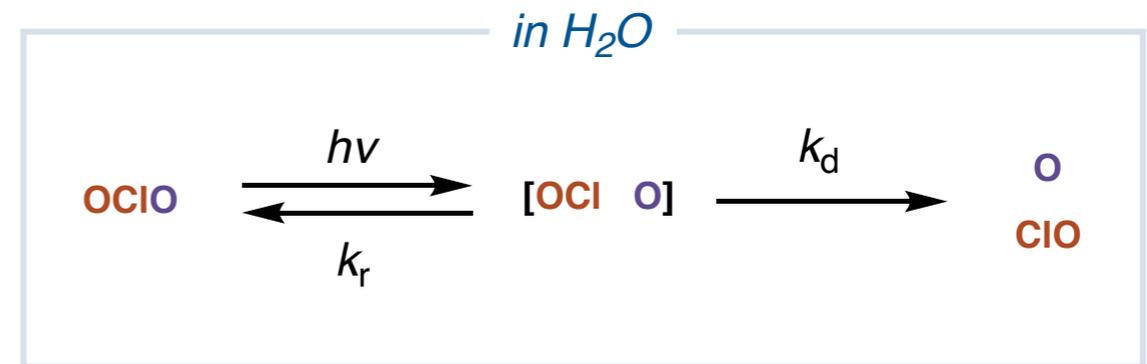
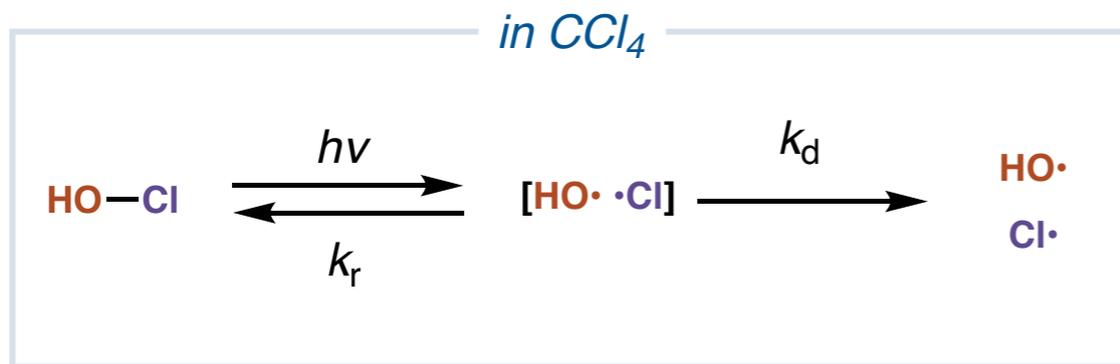
higher quantum yield of radical generation

Meadows, L. F.; Noyes, R. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1960**, *82*, 1872–1876

Clark, K. B.; Griller, D. *Chem. Phys. Lett.* **1990**, *168*, 477–481.

Are these effects present in polyatomic radicals?

- Small polyatomics show similar effects of irradiation wavelength on cage escape

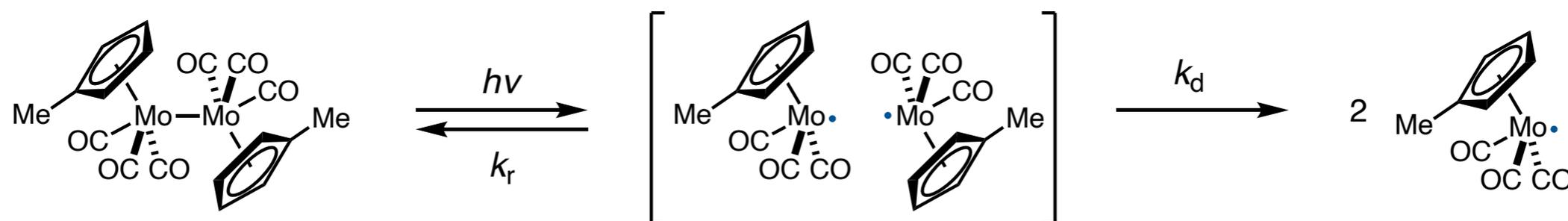


Madsen, D. et al. *J. Phys. Chem. A* **2003**, *107*, 3606–3611.

Thøegensen, J.; Thomsen, C. L.; Poilson, J. A.; Keiding, S. R. *J. Phys. Chem. A* **1998**, *102*, 4186–4191.

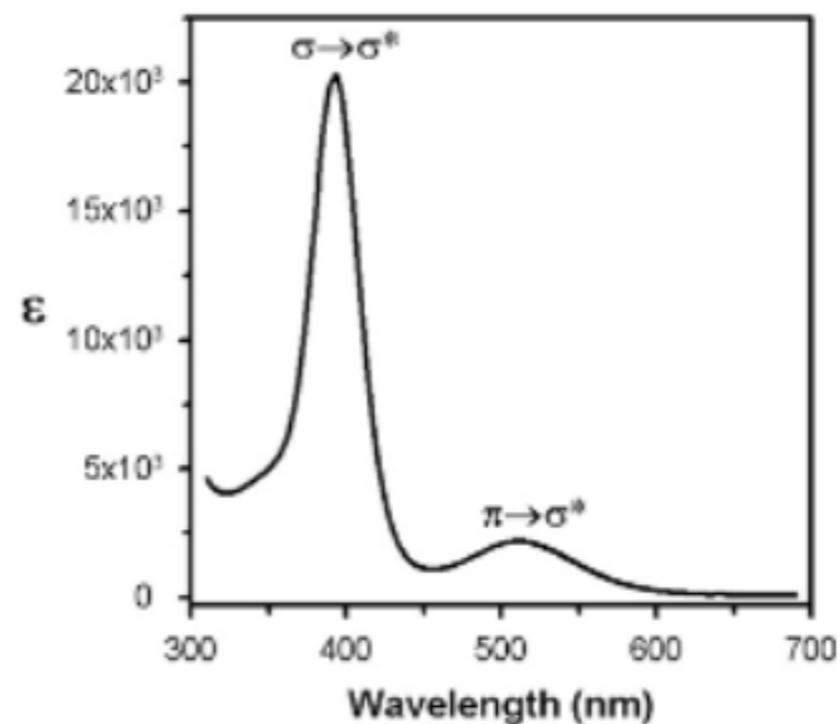
Wavelength effects in photodissociation of organometallic complexes

- Decrease in cage escape observed when irradiating Mo–Mo complexes with shorter-wavelength light



λ (nm)	F_{CP}	transition
546	0.27 ± 0.02	$\pi \rightarrow \sigma^*$
436	0.42 ± 0.03	$\sigma \rightarrow \sigma^*$
404	0.45 ± 0.05	$\sigma \rightarrow \sigma^*$
366	0.40 ± 0.05	$\sigma \rightarrow \sigma^*$

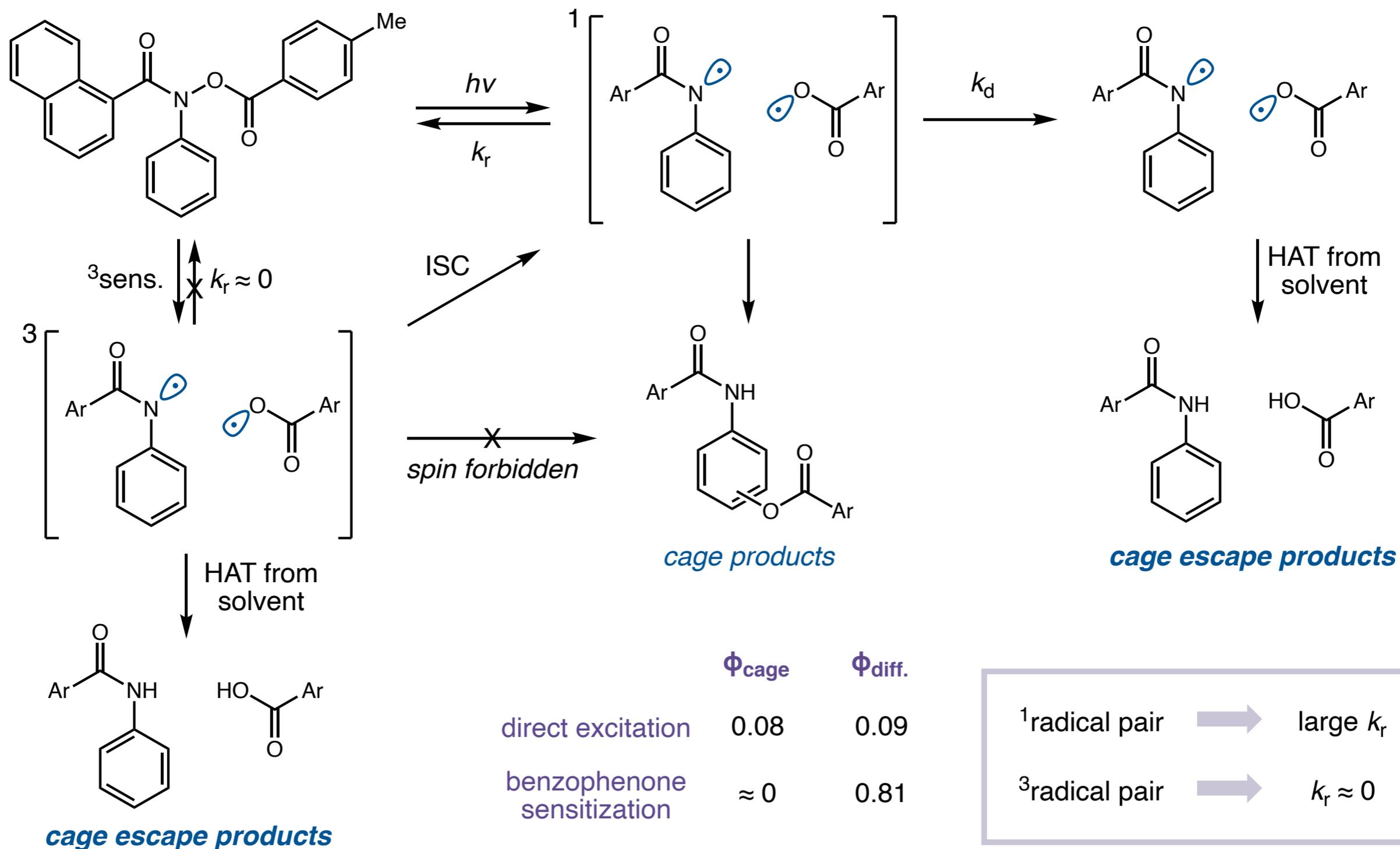
$$F_{CP} = \frac{k_r}{k_r + k_d} \quad \text{fraction of radicals that react in-cage}$$



does the excited transition, and not excess energy, determine F_{CP} in this case?

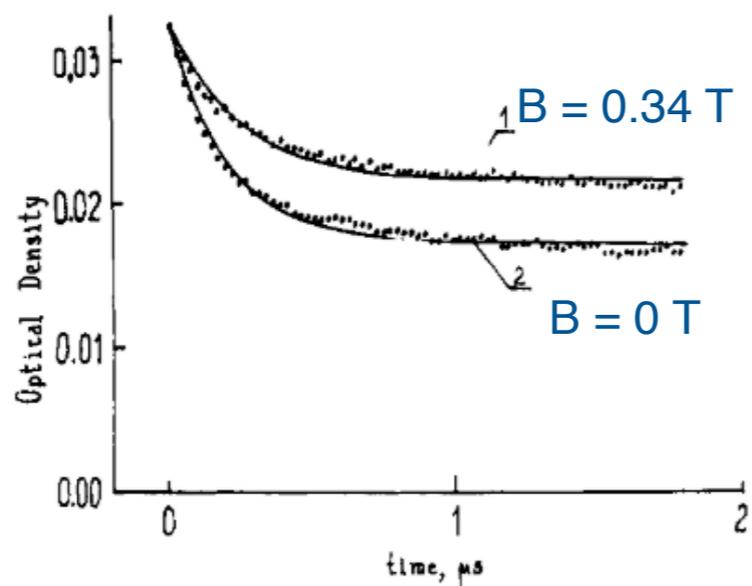
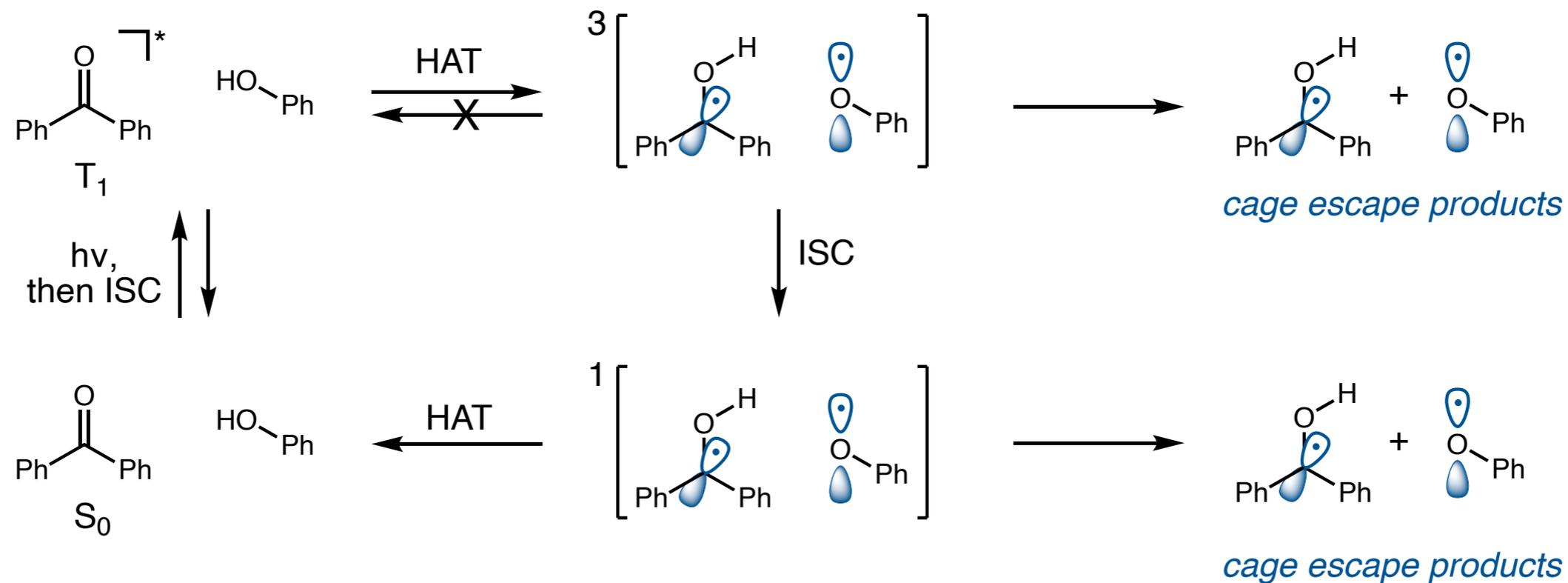
Does radical spin state affect cage efficiency?

- Different results observed via direct excitation and sensitization



Cage effects in benzophenone HAT

- Magnetic field effects reveal role of intersystem crossing in cage recombination



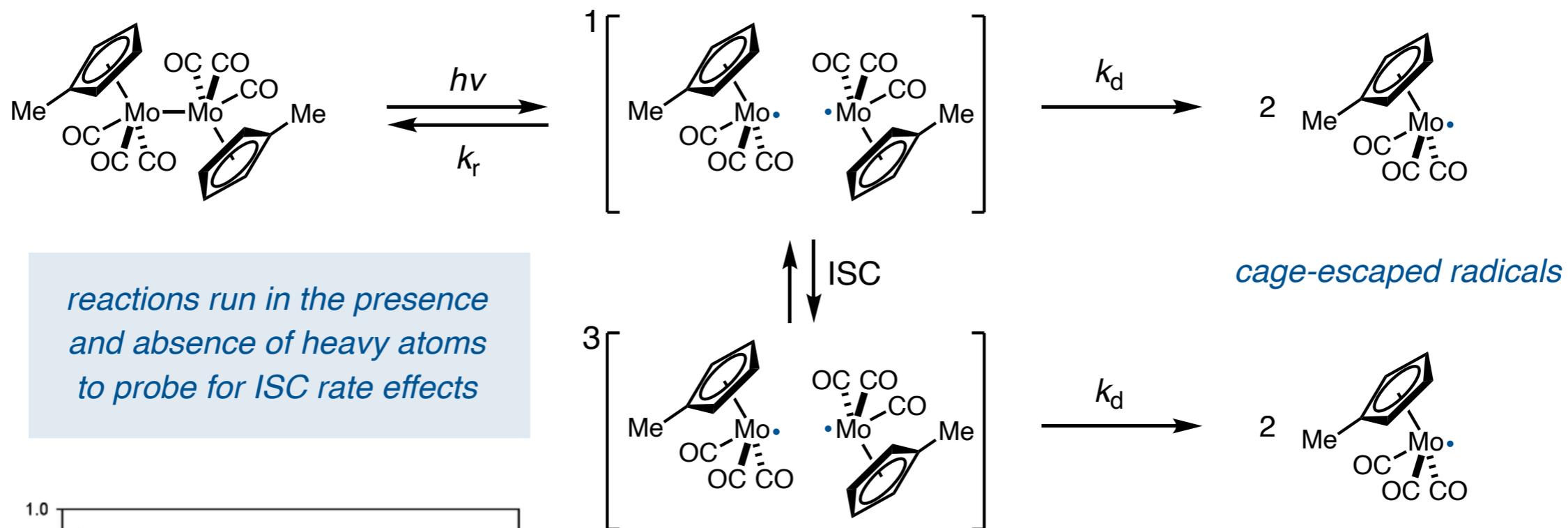
B (T)	F_{cP}
0.34	0.34
0	0.47

$$F_{\text{cP}} = \frac{k_r}{k_r + k_d}$$

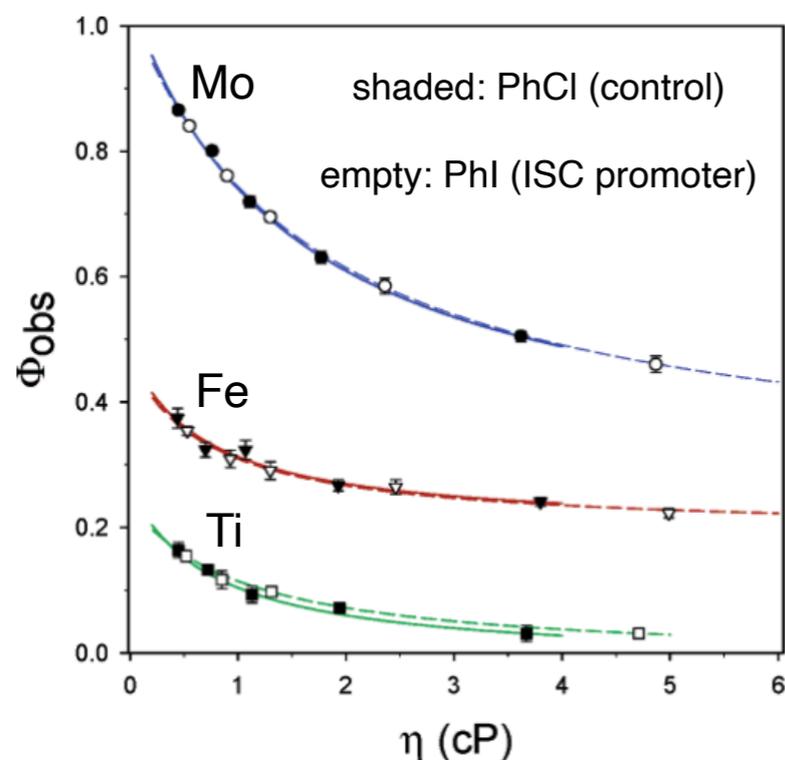
fraction of radicals that react in-cage

Spin barriers in recombination of transition metal radicals

- Lack of heavy atom effects suggest that there is no spin barrier to transition metal radical recombination



reactions run in the presence and absence of heavy atoms to probe for ISC rate effects



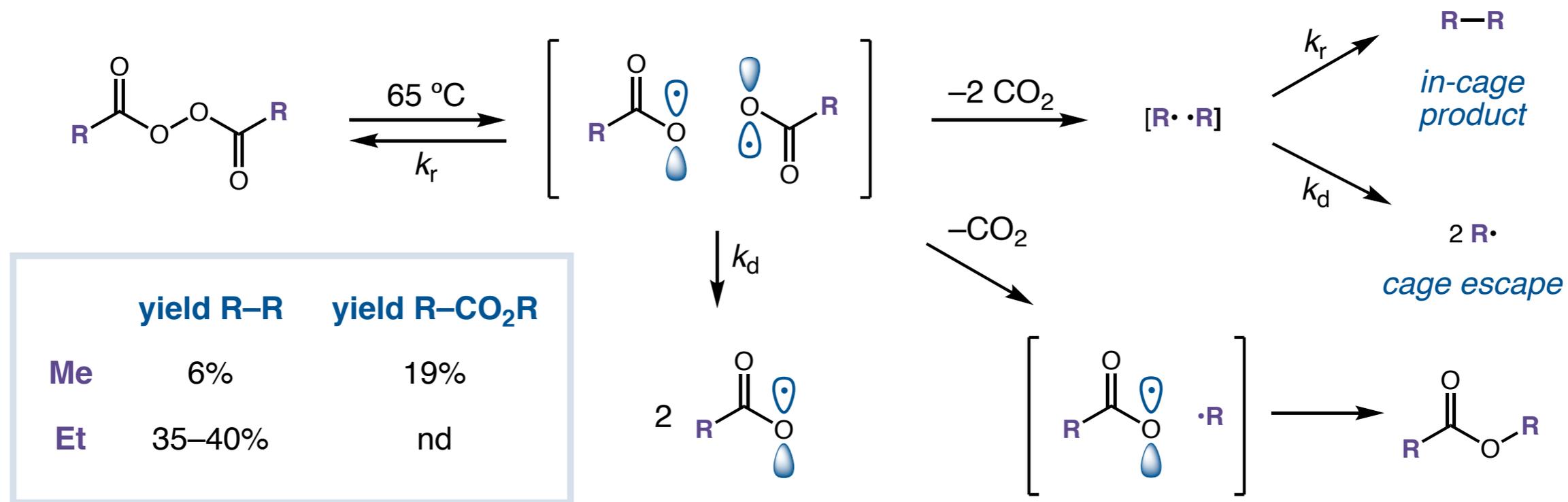
heavy atoms have no effect on radical cage efficiency



there is no significant spin barrier to recombination

Effect of radical size on cage effects

- Propionyl peroxide shows much higher cage efficiency than acetyl peroxide



- Similar trend not observed under photochemical conditions

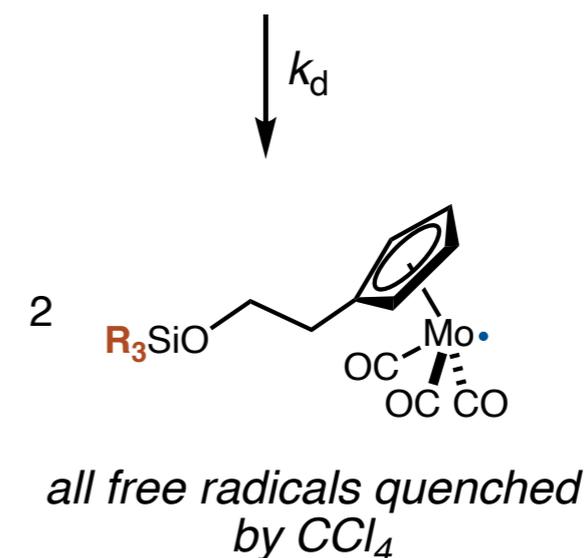
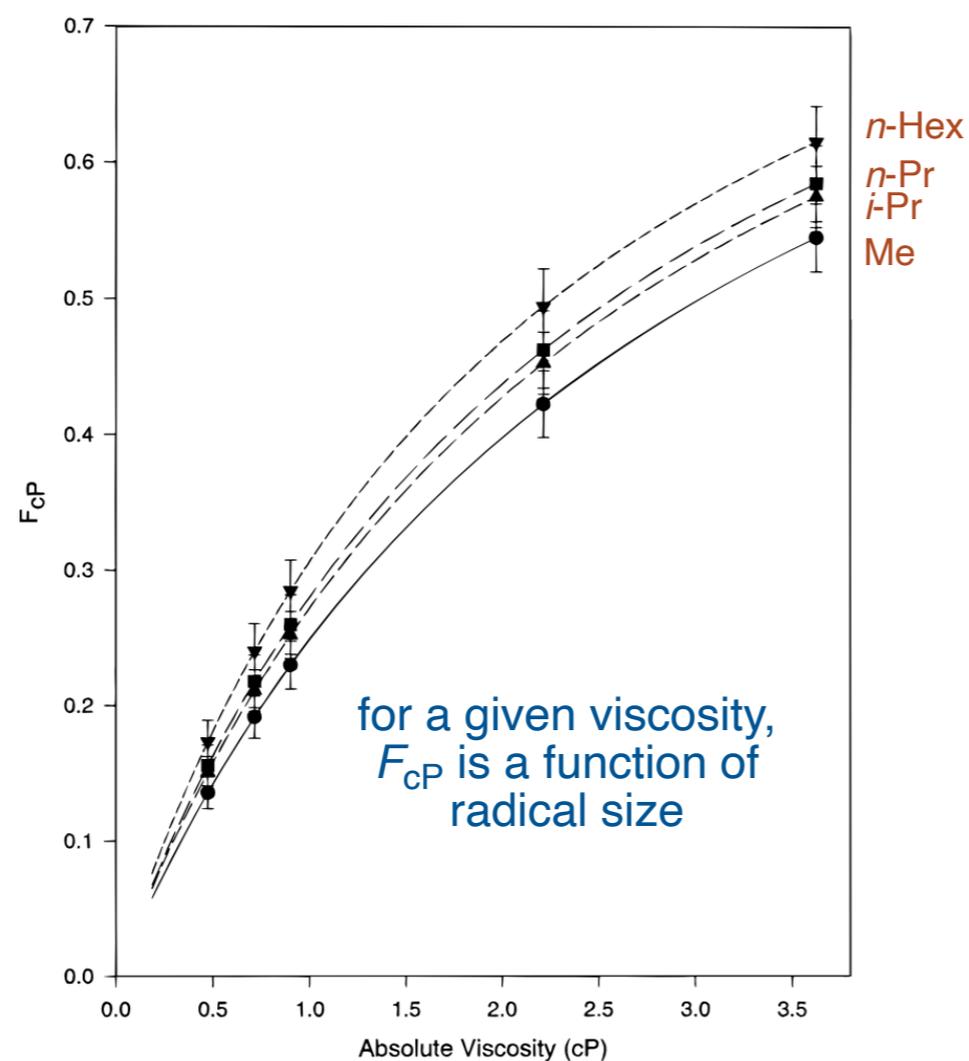
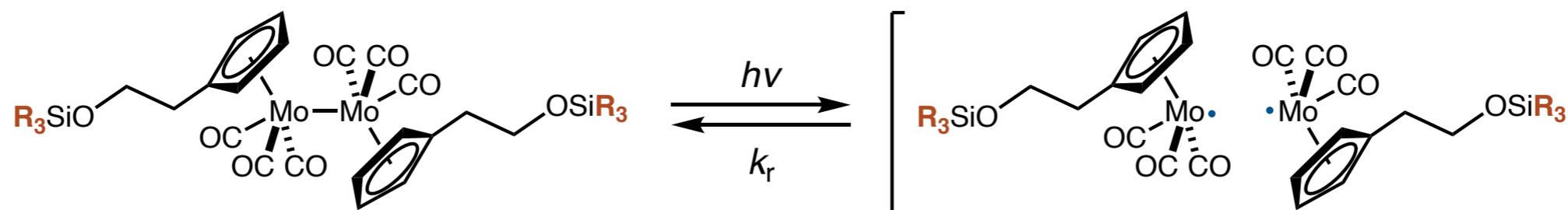


Herk, L.; Feld, M.; Swarc, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1961**, *83*, 2998–3005.

Sheldon, R. A.; Kochi, J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1970**, *92*, 4395–4404.

Systematic study of radical size in organometallic radicals

- Clear dependence observed between silyl substituent and cage efficiency



$$F_{\text{CP}} = \frac{k_r}{k_r + k_d}$$

fraction of radicals that react in-cage

Figure 2. Plot of F_{CP} vs viscosity for $(\text{R}_3\text{SiOCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Cp})_2\text{Mo}_2(\text{CO})_6$ [R = Me (●), *i*-Pr (▲), *n*-Pr (■), *n*-Hx (▼)] with CCl_4 (2 M) at 23 ± 1 °C in hexane/mineral oil. All error bars represent $\pm 1 \sigma$.

Systematic study of radical size in organometallic radicals

- Observed linear plot of $m^{1/2}/r^2$ consistent with Noyes original model

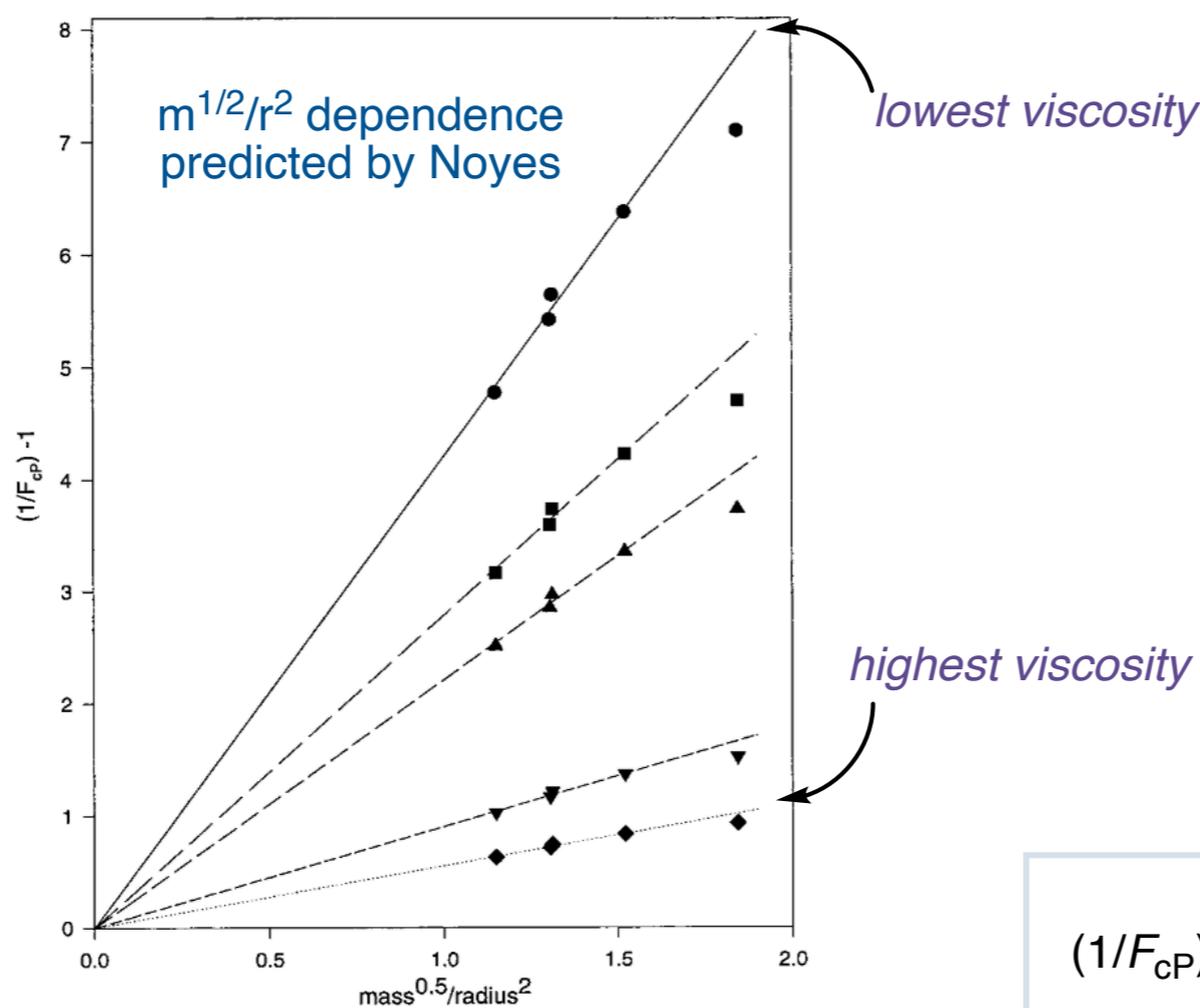
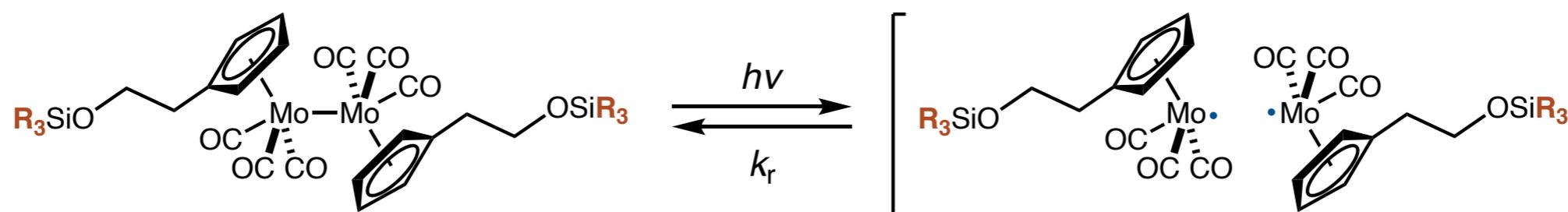
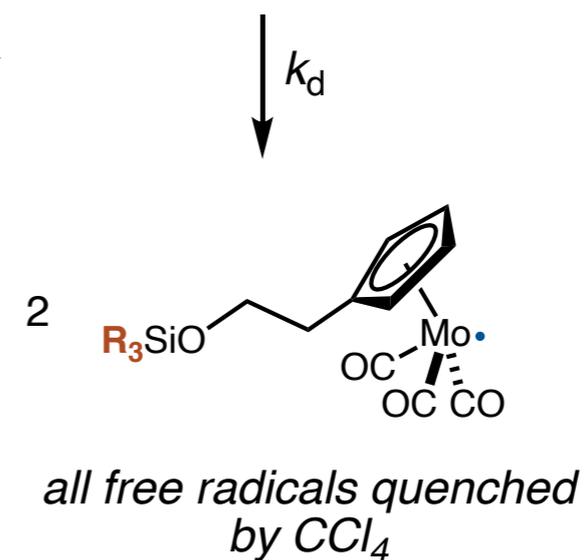


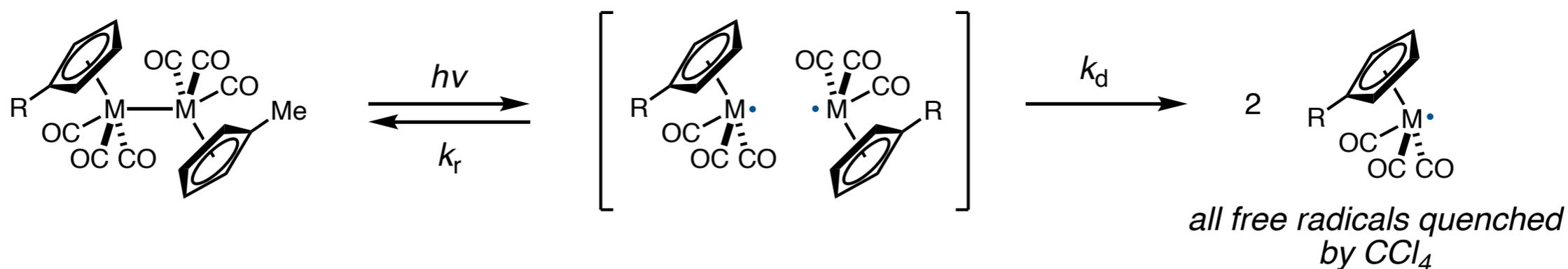
Figure 3. Plot of $F_{CP}^{-1} - 1$ vs $m^{1/2}/r^2$ (m = mass of the radical; r = the radius of a sphere with the same volume as the static volume of the radical) for $(R_3SiOCH_2CH_2Cp)_2Mo_2(CO)_6$ (R = Me, i -Pr, n -Pr, n -Hx) and $(MeCp)_2Mo_2(CO)_6$ (in this order left to right) at the measured viscosities of: 0.47 (●), 0.72 (■), 0.90 (▲), 2.2 (▼), 3.6 (◆) cP.



$$(1/F_{CP}) - 1 = \frac{k_d}{k_r} \quad \text{ratio of diffusion to recombination}$$

Systematic study of radical size in organometallic radicals

- Results with $M = W$ show significant variation from predicted $m^{1/2}/r^2$ relationship



	M (g/mol)	r (kcal/mol)	$m^{1/2}/r^2$
$M = Mo, R = Me$	259.1	2.95	1.85
$M = Mo, R = Me_3SiOCH_2CH_2-$	361.3	3.53	1.53
$M = W, R = Me$	347.0	2.95	2.14

higher $m^{1/2}/r^2$ predicts more cage escape, lower F_{CP} ,
but W compound shows high F_{CP}

$$D_{W-W} \approx 56 \text{ kcal/mol}; D_{Mo-Mo} \approx 32 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

reduced exothermicity prevents cage escape?

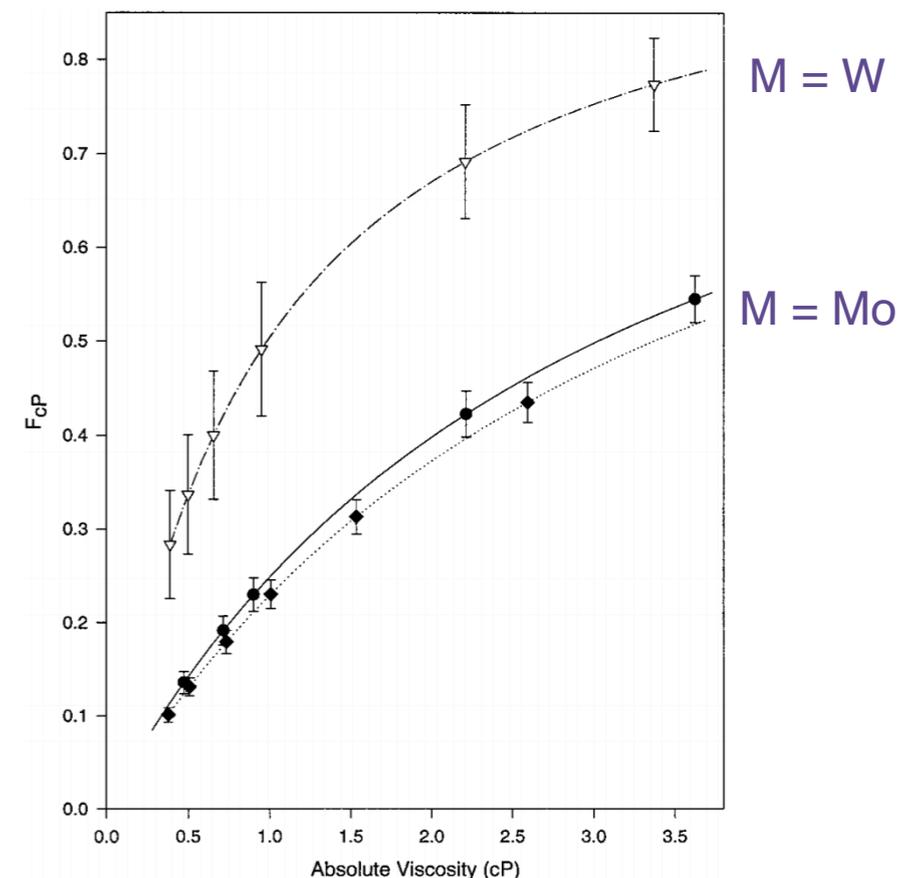
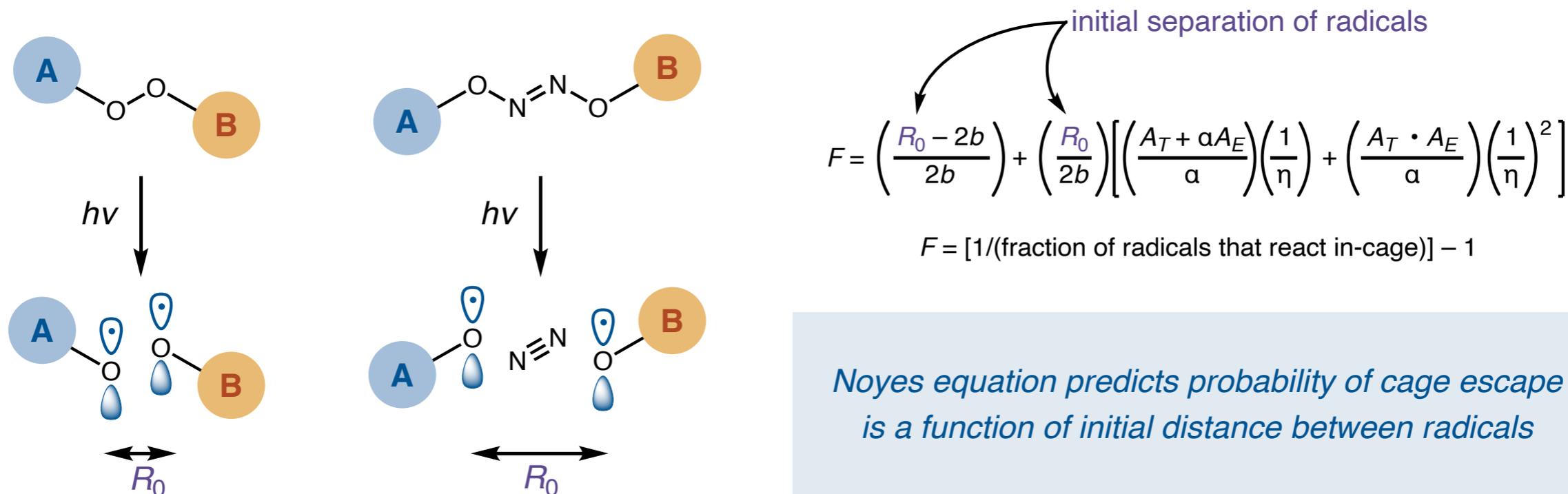


Figure 6. Plot of F_{CP} vs viscosity for the $(Me_3SiOCH_2CH_2Cp)_2Mo_2(CO)_6$ (●), $(MeCp)_2Mo_2(CO)_6$ (◆), $(MeCp)_2W_2(CO)_6$ (▽) molecules with CCl_4 (2 M) in hexane/mineral oil at 23 ± 1 °C. All error bars represent $\pm 1 \sigma$.

Effects of spacer length on cage recombination

- Different spacers generate radicals at different initial distances



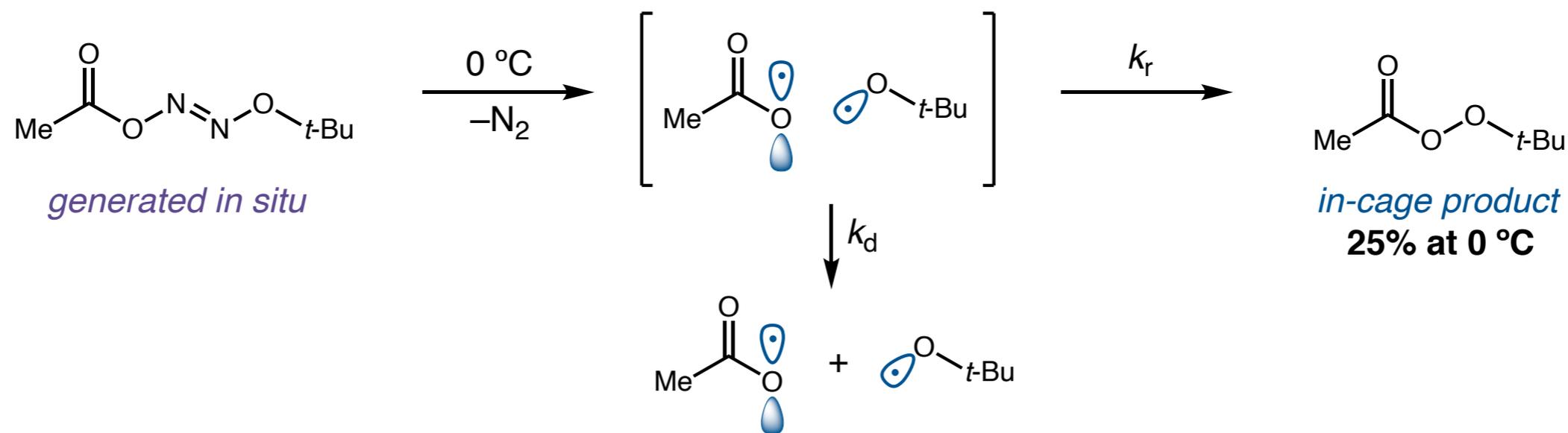
- Diffusion of spacer occurs on the order of diffusion of generated radicals

	CO ₂	N ₂	CyH	PhMe
$D \cdot 10^9$ (m ² /s), in H ₂ O	1.99	2.19	0.84	0.85
$D \cdot 10^9$ (m ² /s), in CCl ₄	3.20	3.60	1.22	1.50

complicates interpretation of experiments based on extrusion of gaseous spacers

Generation of same radical pair via two different precursors

- Significant differences in cage effects concluded



radical pair generation

generated via hyponitrite

calculation method

extrapolation based on viscosity

F_c (100 °C)

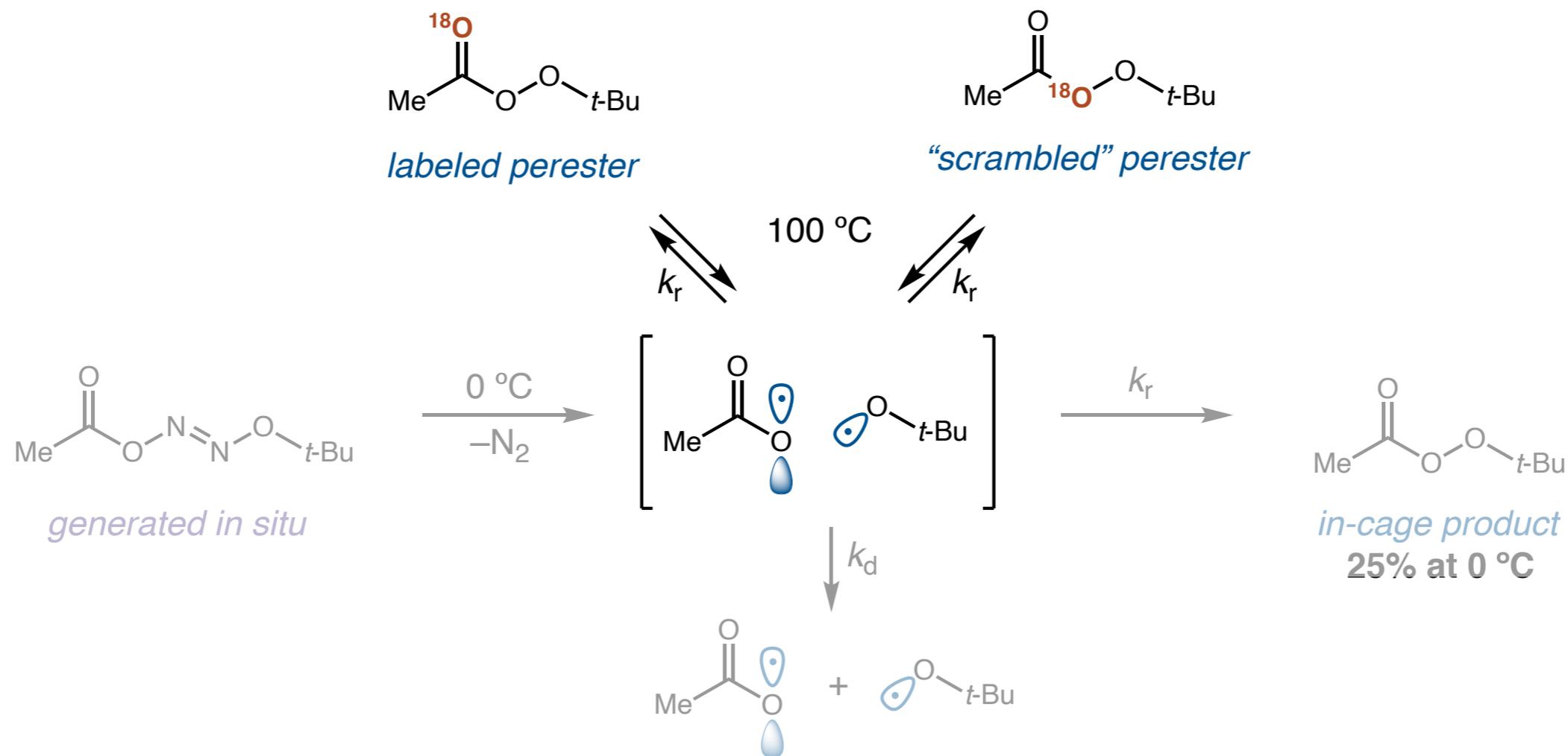
0.05

$$F_c = \frac{k_r}{k_r + k_d}$$

*fraction of radicals
that react in-cage*

Generation of same radical pair via two different precursors

- Significant differences in cage effects concluded



radical pair generation

calculation method

F_c (100 °C)

generated via hyponitrite

extrapolation based on viscosity

0.05

generated via perester

comparison of scrambling to consumption of perester

0.40

$$F_c = \frac{k_r}{k_r + k_d}$$

fraction of radicals that react in-cage

Outline

■ Introduction to cage effects

- *General definition, theoretical predictions*

■ Experimental support for the existence of cage effects

- *Quantum yields, product ratios as a function of reaction medium*

■ Parameters determining the magnitude of cage effects

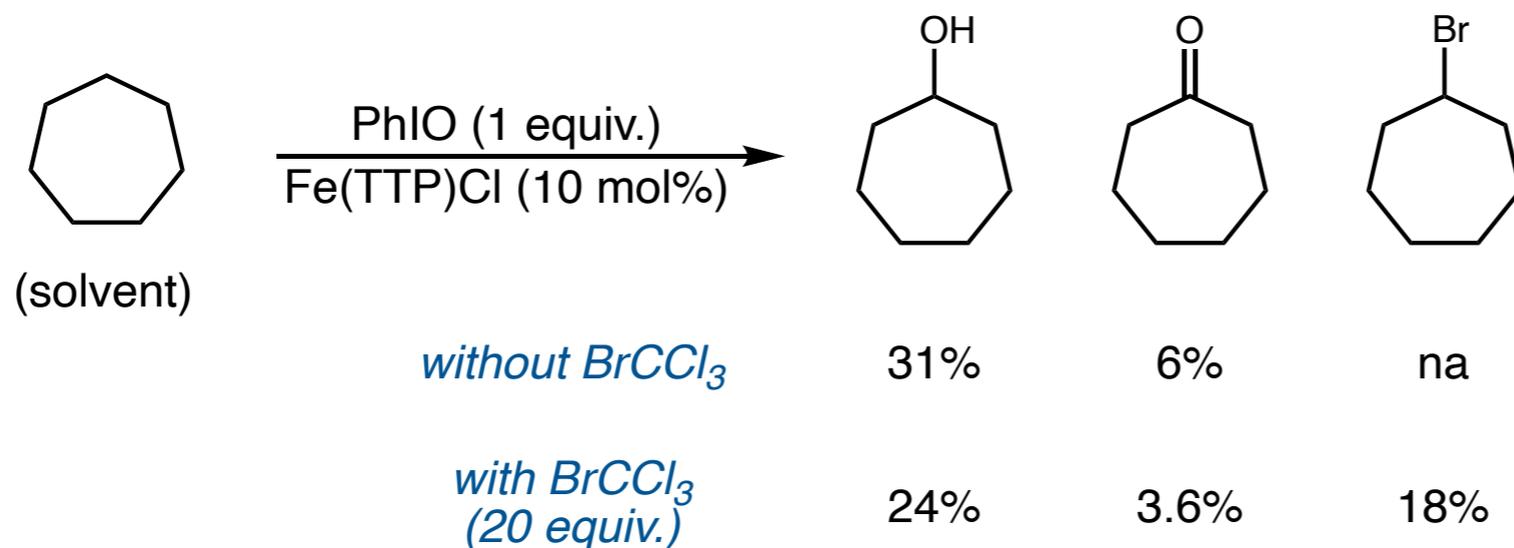
- *Viscosity, reaction energetics, spin state, radical size, initial separation*

■ Recent case studies

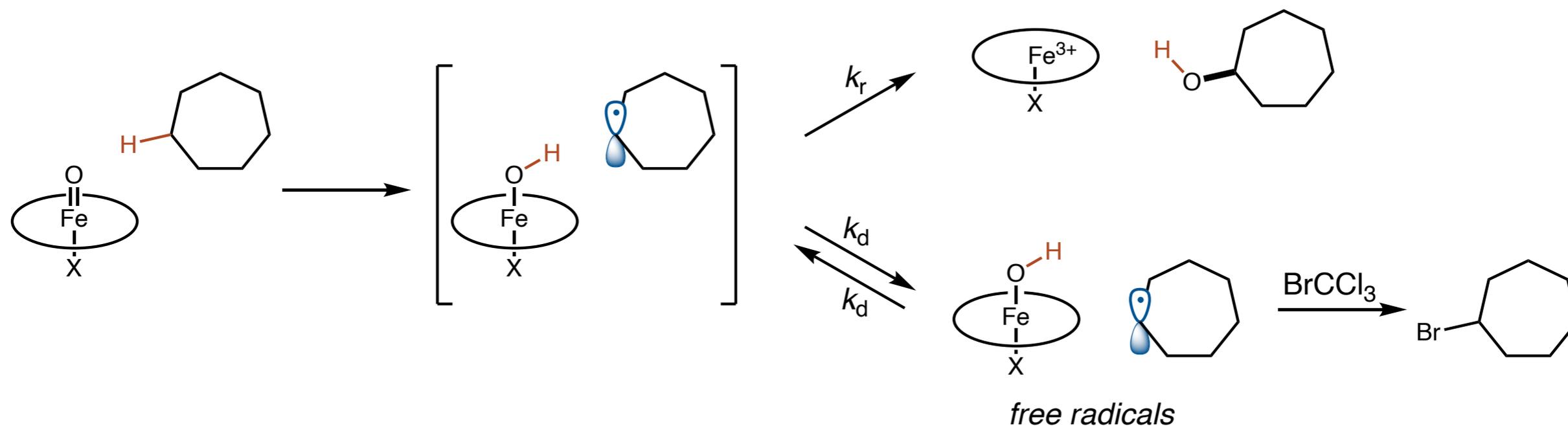
- *Presence in biorelevant systems, transient absorption studies*

Cage effects in iron porphyrin oxidation

- Reaction in the presence of scavenger suggests both cage and non-cage processes

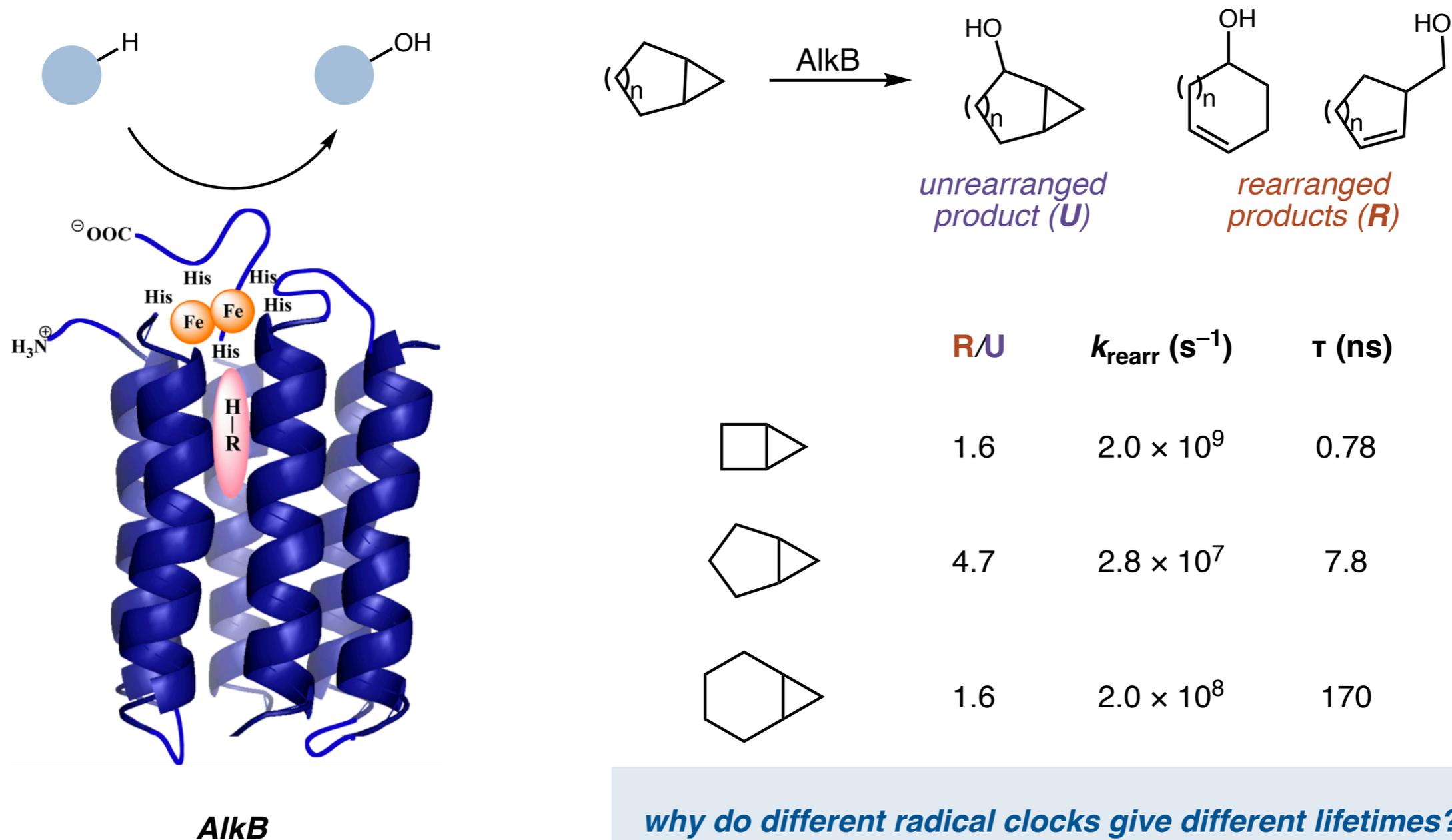


yield in the presence of scavenger supports in-cage recombination



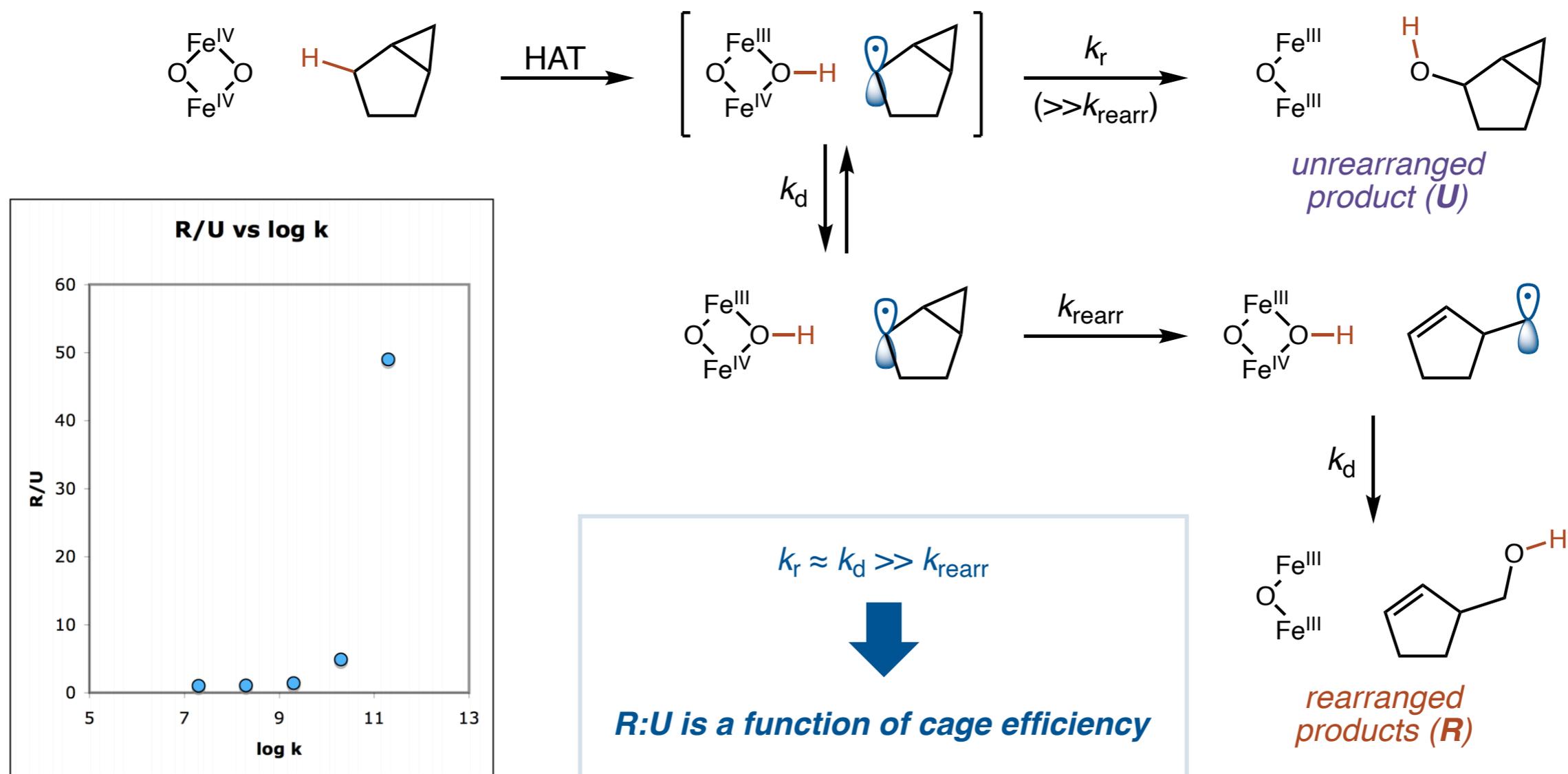
Cage effect confounds radical clock studies of AlkB

- A range of cyclopropane radical clocks give vastly different lifetimes for the alkyl radical



Similar rates of cage escape and recombination alter rearranged vs. unrearranged

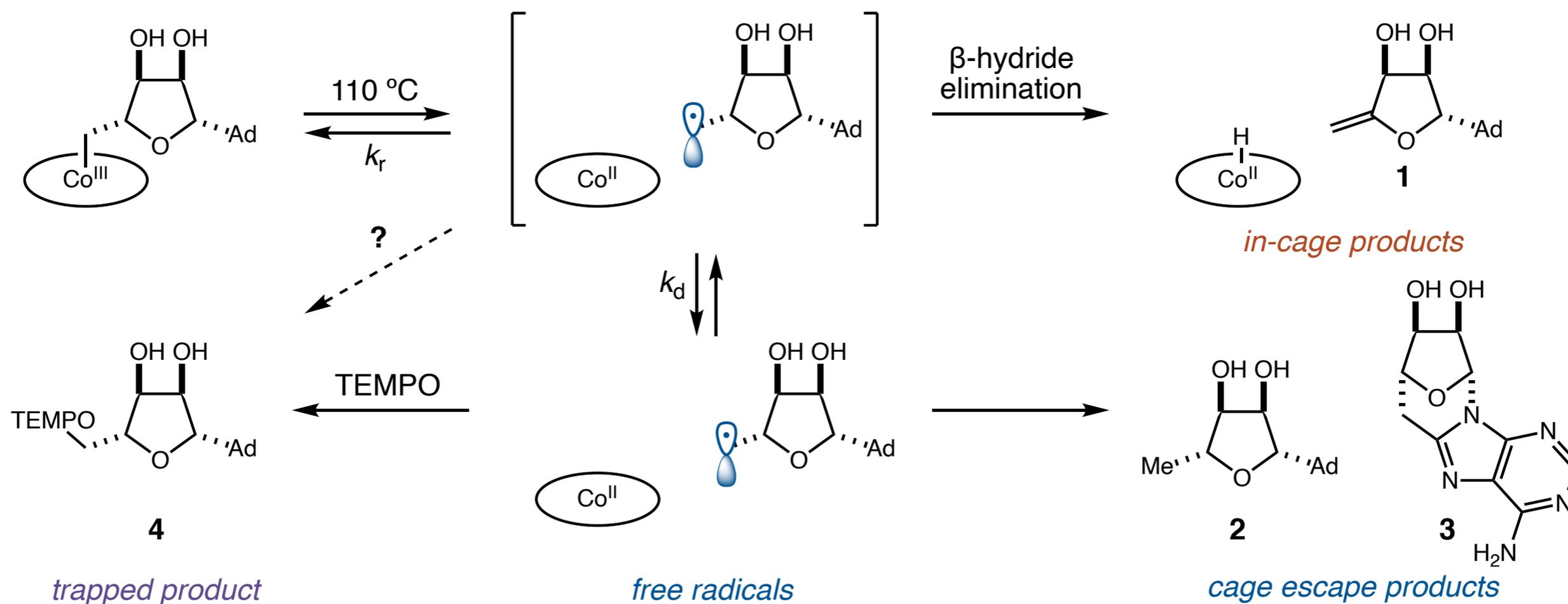
- Similar rates of recombination and diffusion complicate interpretation of radical clocks



for $k_r \approx k_d = 5 \times 10^9$, model predicts $R/U \approx 1$ for $10^7 < k_{rearr} < 10^{10}$

Cage effects in the chemistry of coenzyme B₁₂

- “Base off” analogue of B₁₂ shows significant in-cage recombination in ethylene glycol

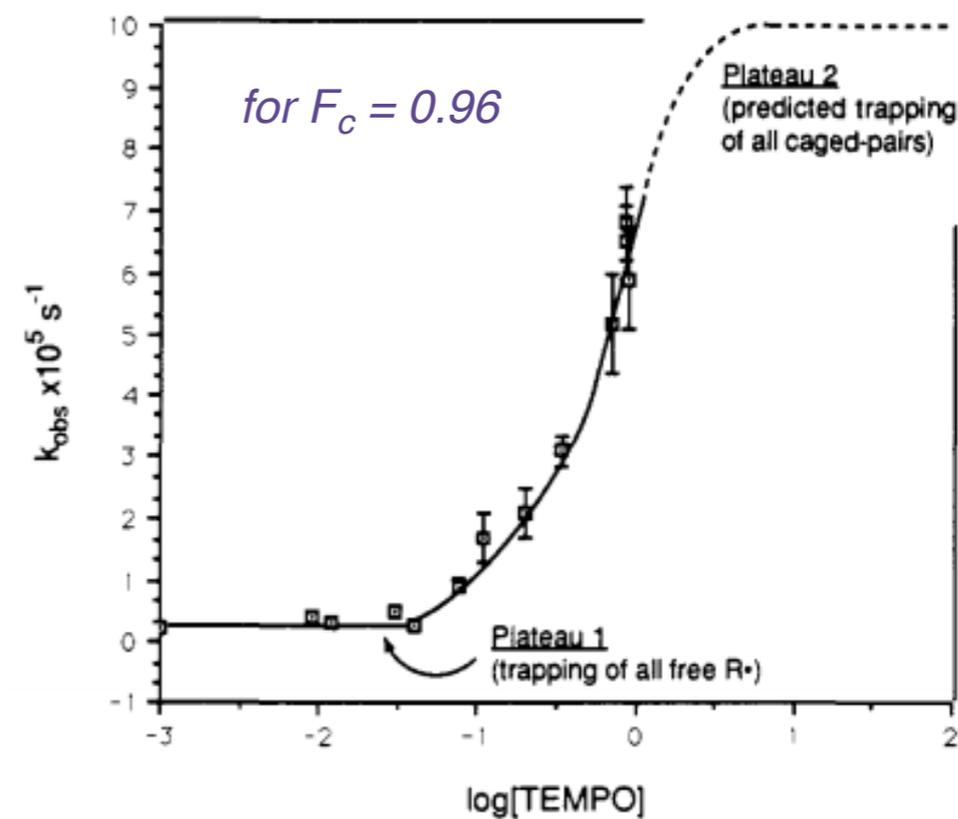
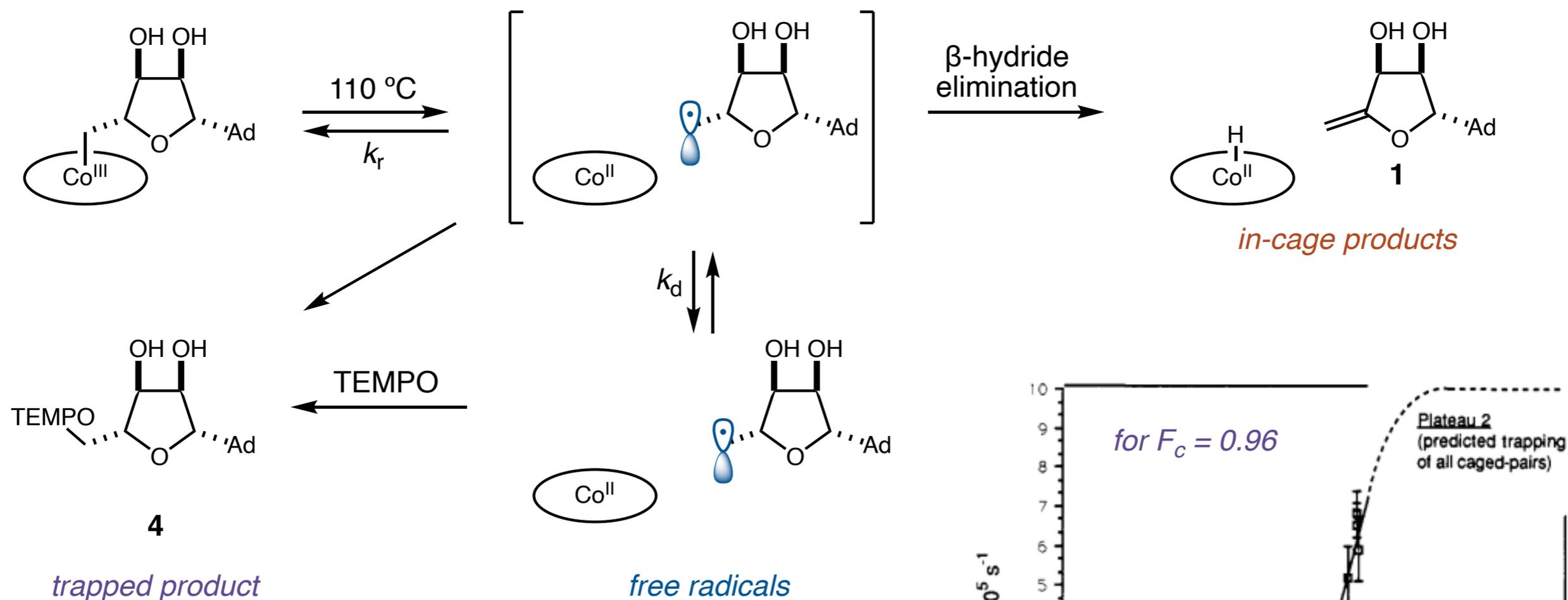


[TEMPO]	β-hydride (1)	HAT (2)	Minisci (3)	TEMPO (4)
0	33%	45%	15%	0
0.12 M	24%	1%	0%	73%
0.75 M	9%	0%	0%	89%
0.85 M	7%	0%	0%	91%

inhibition of β-hydride
by TEMPO supports
stepwise mechanism

Cage effects in the chemistry of coenzyme B₁₂

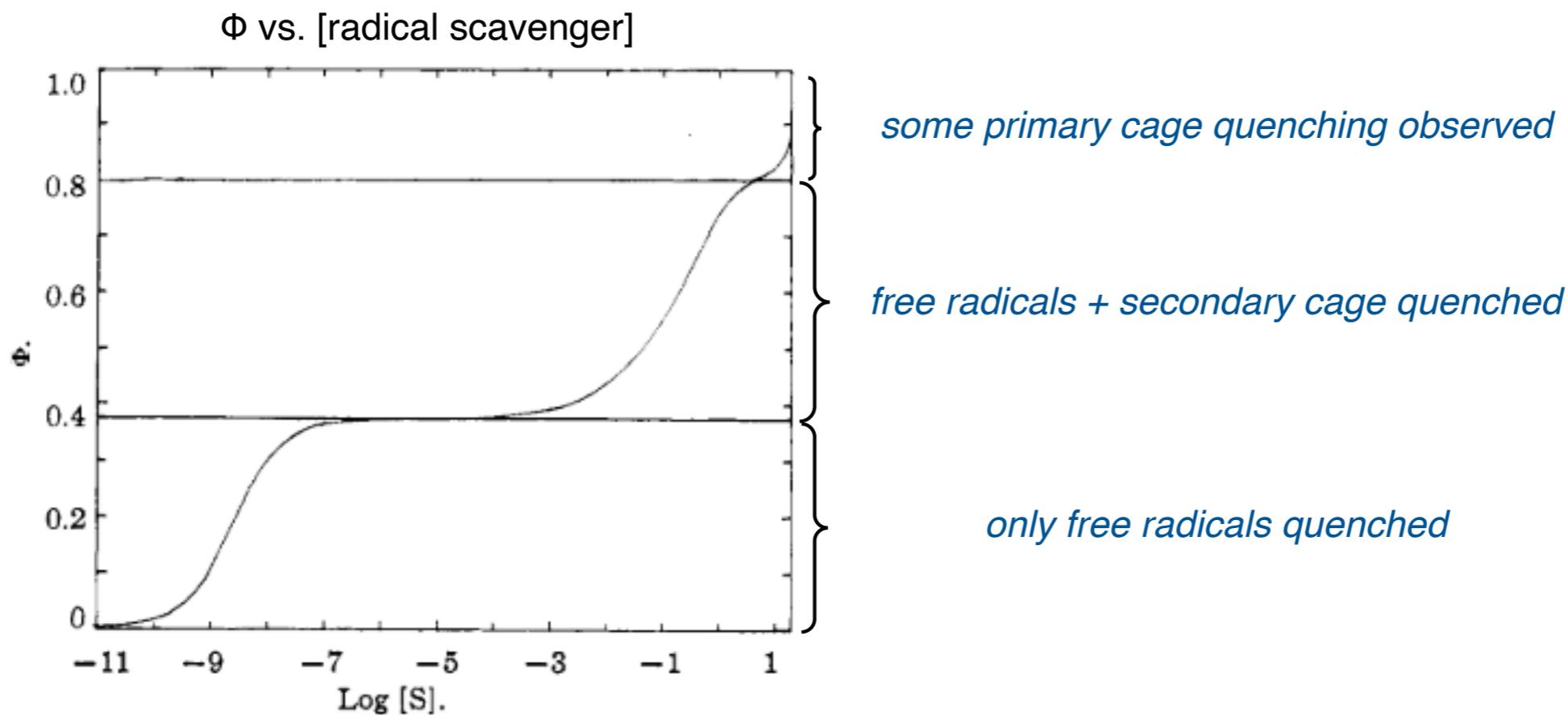
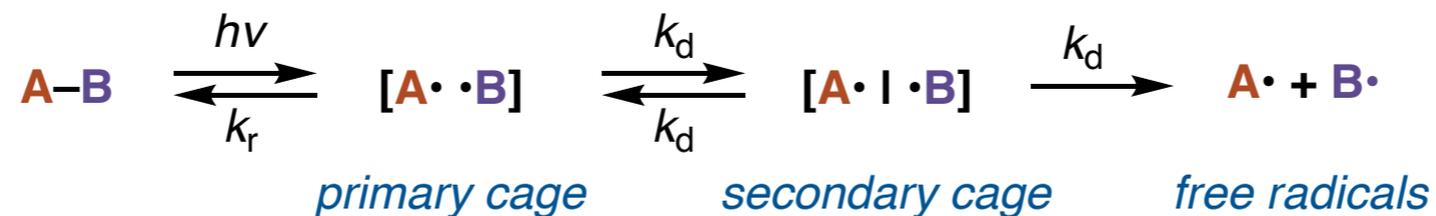
- Kinetic dependence of starting material disappearance on TEMPO supports in-cage trapping



Is TEMPO trapping the primary or secondary radical pair?

Experimental support for secondary cage effects

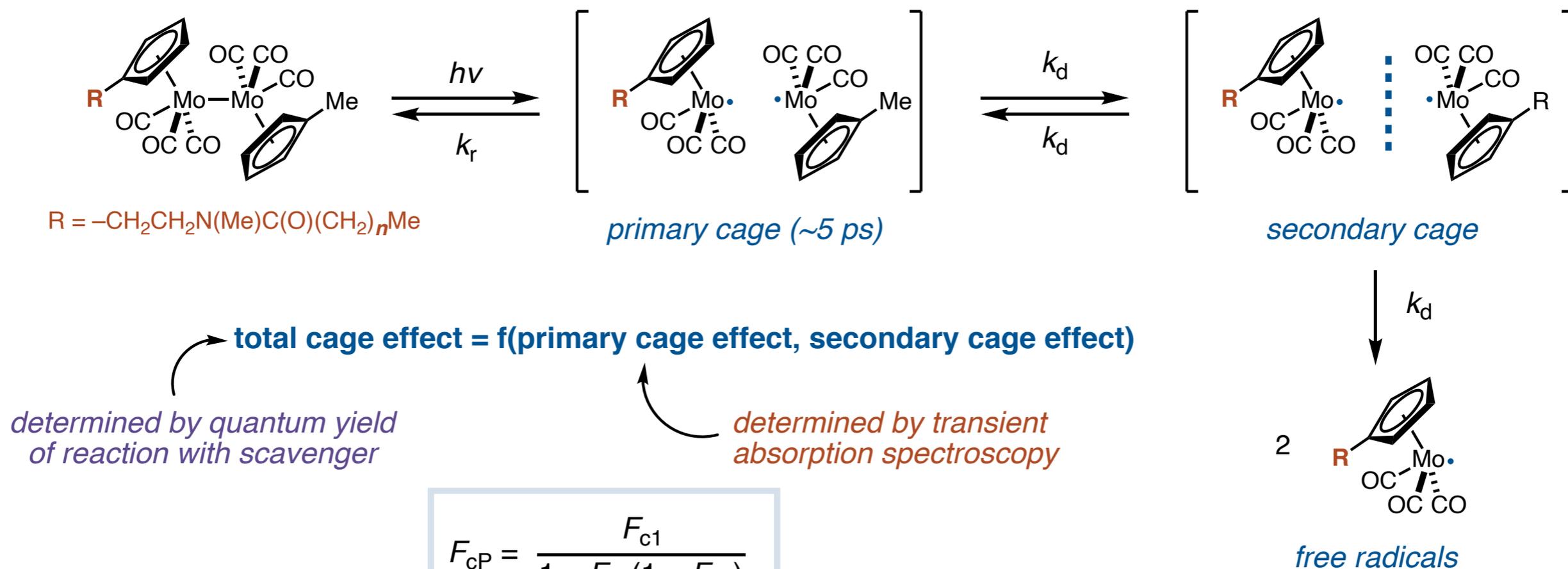
- Early theoretical studies predict significant kinetic importance of primary and secondary cage effects



experimental techniques generally only provide the total cage effect

Combined approach enables separation of primary and secondary effects

- Mathematical treatment enables determination of secondary cage effect from primary and total cage effects



ligand	total cage effect	primary	secondary
$n = 3$	0.42 ± 0.03	0.42 ± 0.02	0
$n = 8$	0.48 ± 0.03	0.42 ± 0.03	0.22
$n = 13$	0.59 ± 0.04	0.44 ± 0.01	0.45
$n = 18$	0.70 ± 0.04	0.43 ± 0.02	0.68

secondary cage effects account for difference in cage efficiency as a function of molecular size

Outline

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- *Viscosity, reaction energetics, spin state, radical size, initial separation*

■ Recent case studies

- *Presence in biorelevant systems, transient absorption studies*

Radical cage effect

radical cage effect:

increased likelihood that diffusive separation will be slower than radical pair recombination in solution



broadly observed in synthetically relevant radical reactions, but often ignored



likely plays a significant role in the success or failure of important single-electron transformations